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ABSTRACT

This annotated bibliography from the Materials Review and Evaluation Services lists reviewed and evaluated fiction books for school media collections. Educators should bear in mind that books included on this list were selected from those which publishers chose to submit for evaluation and may assume that books available for purchase not appearing on the list either were not submitted for evaluation or received unfavorable reviews. At the end of this bibliography may be found an unannotated list of books which have had favorable reviews in reliable reviewing sources. Books are listed by author and each entry includes title, publisher, date of publication, cost, and grade level. (Author/BAO)

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ADVISORY LIST OF INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA

FICTION BOOKS

North Carolina State Department of Public Instruction
Division of Educational Media
Raleigh, North Carolina
Fall 1978

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ADVISORY LIST OF INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA

FICTION BOOKS

This bibliography lists books classified as fiction in the school media collection.

The name of a school administrative unit appearing after an annotation indicates that educators in that school system reviewed the book annotated and submitted the information for inclusion on the ADVISORY LISTS. Occasionally such books may not appear on display at the Materials Review and Evaluation Center in Raleigh. Educators should bear in mind that books included on this list were selected from those which publishers chose to submit for evaluation and may assume that books available for purchase not appearing on the list either were not submitted for evaluation or received unfavorable reviews. Information about negative reviews, which do not appear on this bibliography, can be obtained by writing or calling the Materials Review and Evaluation Center. At the end of this bibliography may be found an unannotated list of books which have had favorable reviews in reliable reviewing sources.

In some cases prices were not available. Prices shown are those quoted by publishers and producers. Prices quoted do not include postage and are subject to change.

All books included on this bibliography except some of those suggested for inclusion by local school administrative units are displayed in the Materials Review and Evaluation Center at 620 North West Street in Raleigh.

PLEASE DO NOT ORDER BOOKS ON THIS LIST FROM THE MATERIALS REVIEW AND EVALUATION CENTER OR FROM THE DIVISION OF TEXTBOOKS. Sources of the items are listed on the DIRECTORY OF PUBLISHERS AND PRODUCERS FOR THE FALL 1978 ADVISORY LISTS OF INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA, a separate publication accompanying the complete set of ADVISORY LISTS OF INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA. An abbreviated or code name for the publisher/producer appearing in the bibliographic entry on this list appears in the DIRECTORY, where the complete address follows the code name.

Schools may use this list to aid in selection of materials but are in no way restricted to purchasing items included on this list.

BOOKS

Adams, Richard. THE PLAGUE DOGS. Knopf, 1978. 393 p. \$10.95. Grades 9-12

Adams maintains standard of excellence set by his WATERSHIP DOWN in new, provocatively allegorical novel about man's inhumanity to animals; when two experimental laboratory dogs escape to the wild, they meet a fox living by cunning and trickery; the trio eventually make the "Most Wanted" List when people fear the dogs have been exposed to a plague germ; for good high school readers fond of Tolkien, Adams, the like (New Hanover County)

Adkins, Jan. MOVING ON: STORIES OF FOUR TRAVELERS. Scribners, 1978. 95 p. \$6.95. Grades 9-12

Four good stories developed around youthful travels--sailing, hiking, skiing, biking; characterized by Hemingway style of detached, methodical attention to minute details of nature and personal reactions; main characters are boys reminiscent of Nick Adams on solitary jaunts down

MOVING ON: STORIES OF FOUR TRAVELERS. (Cont'd)

river or across country; more narrative than dialogue; oddly engrossing; boys in particular will respond to tough, masculine style

Aiken, Joan. THE FAITHLESS LOLLYBIRD. Doubleday, 1978. 256 p. \$6.95.
Grades 7-9

Twelve fanciful, often outrageously unlikely short stories and one poem, all imbued with zest and humor; witty, mysterious doings set in such places as Venice 300 years ago, modern-day York, a large forest "far away to the north," other exotic places beautifully conjured up and peopled with delightful eccentrics; for good readers with lively imaginations who enjoy excursions into Never-never Land

Aiken, Joan. THE FAR FORESTS: TALES OF ROMANCE, FANTASY, AND SUSPENSE. Viking, 1977. 154 p. \$7.95. Grades 9-12

Anthology of excellent short stories in a diversity of whimsy and make-believe with quaint and modern mixing amiably; features an Elizabethan ghost who lures men with her gilt-haired charm, Fred who lives happily in a blue Arabian jar, a winged Martian who reads minds, and more; fine, subtle writing; original ideas; some British idioms; very nice addition to story collection (Wilkes County)

Aiken, Joan. THE FIVE-MINUTE MARRIAGE. Doubleday, 1977. 264 p. \$8.95.
Grades 10-12

Light-hearted "Regency novel" which is almost, not quite, a spoof of such novels; all about spunky, quick-witted Delphie Carteret who reluctantly agrees to a (she thinks) mock marriage with her devilishly charming cousin Gareth in order to secure her inheritance; naturally she gets more than she bargained for in danger, suspense, and love; a tongue-in-cheek romp through 18th-century English manors and manners which faithfully captures details and flavor of the period

Aiken, Joan. GO SADDLE THE SEA. Doubleday, 1977. 311 p. \$7.95. Grades 6-9

Another delicious Joan Aiken melodrama with a full cast of villains, heroes, heroines, adventures, misadventures; set in 1821, the plot follows 12-year-old Felix Brooke as he leaves the gloomy house of his Spanish grandfather to find the family and origins of his English father; fun reading (UNC-CH)

Aiken, Joan. THE SMILE OF THE STRANGER. Doubleday, 1978. 280 p. \$8.95.
Grades 7-12

Juliana, having lived a very protected life with her father, never dreamed that adventures await her; the 17-year-old girl travels from Italy to England, experiencing intrigue, romance, and inheriting a fortune; set in late 1700's, plot includes encounters with French Revolution, Prince of Wales, and a dangerous balloon ride over English Channel; adventurous and romantic

Ainsworth, Ruth. THE BEAR WHO LIKED HUGGING PEOPLE AND OTHER STORIES. Scribners, 1978. 102 p. \$6.95. Grades 3-5

Thirteen warm, humorous, off-beat stories for pure enjoyment--mermaids, witches who can't get their spells to work, imaginary creatures, bears who like to hug people a little too hard; delightful pen-and-ink drawings,

THE BEAR WHO LIKED HUGGING PEOPLE AND OTHER STORIES. (Cont'd)

some full-page watercolors (not a picture book, however); excellent tool for an aspiring storyteller or independent readers (UNC-CH)

Albert, Louise. BUT I'M READY TO GO. Dell, 1976. 220 p. \$1.25 paper.
Grades 7-12

Skillfully handled account of Judy Miller, minimally handicapped 15-year-old, in straightforward, credible story with contemporary appeal; Judy, a slow learner in family of bright people, strives to fit into "normal" life at home and at school, which is captured in factual, unsentimentalized prose sharply revealing her frustration, isolation; reads like a first-person account; no miraculous ending mars this record of an adolescent girl striving to cope in a world where "all the kids she passed seemed to be walking in pairs" except her, Judy--the dumb "weirdo"

Alexander, Lloyd. THE TOWN CATS AND OTHER TALES. Dutton, 1977. 126 p. \$7.50.
Grades 3-6

Fairy tale atmosphere in eight stories about cats and people in which cats prove smarter than people; as opposed to vain, greedy, or stupid people, the cats around them are helpful, generous, clever, assisting honorable masters, worthy causes, and the poverty stricken; like fairy tales, these stories end "happily ever after"; vocabulary may be difficult for group the stories will please, but cat fans will enjoy the rich wording; pen-and-ink illustrations greatly aid understanding (Caldwell County)

Allan, Mabel Esther. THE RISING TIDE. Walker & Co., 1976. 136 p. \$6.95.
Grades 6-10

When 18-year-old Fenny inherits three small English islands near Wales, complete with neglected great house and ruins of an old abbey, she and friend Sue travel there, only to encounter sullen attitudes among islanders, unexplained lights and narrowly averted mishaps, the Welsh Red Dragon organization's strange activities, and a puzzling, disturbed child; readers who enjoy danger, romance, and suspense will enjoy this gothic tale (Fayetteville City)

Allardyce, Paula. MISS PHILADELPHIA SMITH. Coward, 1977. 224 p. \$7.95.
Grades 9-12

Philadelphia Smith, poor girl from "even" numbered addresses on Montagu Road and brought up rigidly with no tolerance for alcohol or vice, is forced by circumstances to turn for help to Tom Atherton, the designing aristocrat from "odd" numbers across the street; intrigue results, involving Philadelphia's fiancé and Mr. Atherton's former lady friend; well written, engrossing, fast-moving; excellent character development; overuses words like "bitch" and "whore" but nothing stronger; only difference between this and myriad others of its kind is surprise ending (Wilkes County)

Alter, Judy. AFTER PA WAS SHOT. Morrow, 1978. 189 p. \$6.43. Grades 5-7

Twelve-year-old Ellsbeth shoulders major family responsibilities when her father, deputy sheriff of 1904 Texas town, is shot and her pregnant mother crumbles under the news; situation is further complicated when her mother opens boarding house and marries boarder whom Ellsbeth distrusts; the new husband turns out to be a bank robber, a revelation which shocks her mother back into her rightful responsibilities as a mother; sensitively, vividly shares Ellsbeth's growing-up experiences from her point of view (UNC-CH)

Angell, Judie. IN SUMMERTIME IT'S TUFFY. Bradbury, 1977. 230 p. \$6.95.
Grades 6-9

Typical campers and their problems, including a chief counselor named Uncle Otto, occupy 12-year-old Elizabeth ("Tuffy") for two months at summer camp; good family relationships, funny parts, sad parts--emotions dominate; occasionally slow paced; definitely a book for girls and better readers

Angier, Bradford, and Barbara Corcoran. ASK FOR LOVE AND THEY GIVE YOU RICE PUDDING. Houghton, 1977. 151 p. \$6.95. Grades 9-12

In diary style, 17-year-old Robbie Benson tells of his alcoholic mother, his father who disappeared years ago, and his well-to-do grandparents; a fat allowance and a Fiat don't help him win friends or get dates with the elusive Vicki; his father's old journal motivates Robbie to find his father, a disturbing experience for both, but one which helps Rob mature into better understanding of his parents and himself; well-drawn characters, believable relationships, appealing journal-entry style

Avi. EMILY UPHAM'S REVENGE, OR HOW DEADWOOD DICK SAVED THE BANKER'S NIECE: A MASSACHUSETTS ADVENTURE. Pantheon, 1978. 172 p. \$6.95. Grades 4-7

Zany tale set in Massachusetts in 1875 featuring a prim young lady, a not-too-honest father, a mean, miserly banker uncle, and a rascally boy; prissy Emily, who would rather die than be dirty, arrives from Boston to stay with her uncle; abandoned at the station, Emily is "rescued" by Deadwood Dick, who convinces her that Boston is full of bandits and whisks her away to his hideout; planning the perfect crime, Dick arranges for Emily to rob her uncle's bank, but the plot backfires when a real robber enters the scene; fun-filled adventure; amusing black-and-white illustrations

Babbitt, Natalie. THE EYES OF THE AMARYLLIS. Farrar, 1977. 128 p. \$6.95.
(Also available from Bantam for \$1.95 paper.) Grades 5-9

Combination mystery-fantasy charged with the presence and power of the sea; when 12-year-old Jenny Reade goes to the sea as companion and helper to her grandmother, she falls under twin spells cast by Gran and the sea's "wide green smile" as she joins Gran's obsessive search for a "sign" from her long-dead sailor husband lost at sea when the AMARYLLIS sank in a hurricane; haunting, lovely tale, honed to perfection

Baker, Betty. SAVE SIRRUSHANY! (ALSO AGOTHA, PRINCESS GWYN AND ALL THE FEARSOME BEASTS). Macmillan, 1978. 134 p. \$7.95. Grades 5-9

Agotha must save herself and Princess Gwyn from marriages of convenience by using her wits in tale of magic and dragons set in fantasy kingdom of SIRRUSHANY; narrative style is confusing at times--abrupt changes in location and characters rather like scene changes in motion pictures without benefit of visuals to establish location; positive view of female role; humorous and entertaining

Baldwin, Anne Norris. A LITTLE TIME. Viking, 1978. 119 p. \$6.95. Grades 4-6

Torn between love for Matt, who is handicapped by Down's syndrome, and anger about restrictions he necessitates, Sarah and her family struggle to reach a fair, livable solution; when Mother is hospitalized and Matt is placed in a foster home, the initial family reaction is relief, but, loving and missing Matt, they begin to rethink; sensitive story probing real problems of living with handicapped child; effectively expresses conflicting emotions and guilt they breed

Bates, Betty. BUGS IN YOUR EARS. Holiday, 1977. 128 p. \$5.95. Grades 4-7

Thirteen-year-old Carrie must adjust to her mother's new husband and his ready-made family as well as new school and new friends; no one seems to notice her discontent--they all have "bugs in their ears"; learning to cope, accept, and love, Carrie grows up by book's end; easy to read; serious subject without being heavy; breezy, contemporary appeal; realistic peer/school situations; good read-aloud; bibliotherapy

Beatty, Patricia. SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT. Morrow, 1976. 254 p. \$5.94. Grades 5-10

It's the revolt of mother and a lot of other women besides--a doctor, lawyer, journalist, schoolteacher, and mother's 13-year-old spirited daughter--against conducting school in a chicken coop; they take matters into their own hands in lively, humorous story based on historical events in 1875 Montana mining town; good background information on women's role in that time; well-defined characters, though Dr. J. Marah's ability to sustain her male disguise is not quite credible; little too much preaching at times, but generally fast moving, delightful

Bellaire, John. THE LETTER, THE WITCH, AND THE RING. Dial, 1976. 188 p. \$5.47. (Also available from Dell for \$1.25 paper.) Grades 4-8

Rose Rita's friend, Mrs. Zimmermann, a genial witch, invites Rose Rita on a trip; they encounter a wicked witch pumping gas at a service station who turns Mrs. Zimmermann into a chicken for taking her boyfriend years ago; plot turns on powers of a magic ring and on Rose Rita's fears about junior high; absorbing fantasy which blends a very real 13-year-old's growing pains with world of magic

Blickle, Katrinka. NORTH SEA MISTRESS. Doubleday, 1977. 252 p. \$7.95. Grades 9-12

Light, airy, somewhat suspenseful escape story set in spring of 1975 in Scotland where widow Fiona Grimsby reaps both wealth and misfortune from North Sea oil fields; when she remarries and her second husband opposes English oil companies in North Sea, marital discontent ensues; harmless reading

Blue, Rose. THE THIRTEENTH YEAR. Watts, 1977. 85 p. \$5.90. Grades 7-10

Thirteen-year-old Barry is preparing for his bar mitzvah, the cantor is training him, and his grandfather is studying and helping him prepare for the ceremony marking a Jewish boy's entry into manhood; family life, customs, and concerns are vividly explained in true-to-life story

Brady, Esther Wood. TOLIVER'S SECRET. Crown, 1976. 166 p. \$6.95. Grades 3-6

Dressed as a boy, spunky 10-year-old Ellie, acting in her disabled grandfather's place, delivers an important message to General Washington; carrying her precious message hidden inside a loaf of bread, Ellie outwits street bullies who snatch the loaf from her and a British soldier determined to eat it; Richard Caffari's pen-and-ink drawings reflect feeling and humor; one of the few stories about this period with a girl protagonist

Brancato, Robin F. SOMETHING LEFT TO LOSE. Knopf, 1976. 179 p. \$6.95. (Also available from Bantam for \$1.75 paper.) Grades 4-9

Described on January 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Brent, Madeleine. MERLIN'S KEEP. Doubleday, 1977. 352 p. \$8.95. Grades 10-12

Jani, orphaned in Tibet under mysterious circumstances, is sent to England after death of British army sergeant who raised her; new friendships launch adventures leading to fulfillment of old Tibetan prophecy made to Jani when a child; a lovely heroine with a mysterious past, exotic Tibetan setting, touches of the occult, loyalty, love--all the ingredients of the gothic combined in well-characterized novel by author of MOONRAKER'S BRIDE, TREGARON'S DAUGHTER, and STRANGER AT WILDINGS (Caldwell County)

Bridgers, Sue Ellen. HOME BEFORE DARK. Knopf, 1976. 176 p. \$6.95. (Also available from Bantam for \$1.50 paper.) Grades 10-12

A migrant family returns to old North Carolina homeplace after years of living out of a ramshackly station wagon in Florida; 14-year-old Stella Willis, wise beyond her years, senses that she will have roots on the farm and fights desperately to remain there; beautifully written story by North Carolina author; because of nature of subject matter, occasional swear words are appropriate in context (Wilkes County)

Brodie, Deborah, ed. STORIES MY GRANDFATHER SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME. Bonim, 1977. 113 p. \$6.95. Grades 3-6

Twelve short stories depicting scenes in 20th-century Jewish life in turn-of-the-century Europe and America, pioneer Israel, modern Israel and America; focuses on children's experiences and activities in contexts of ancient Jewish traditions--baking matzah for Seder--and immediate Israeli problems--war with Arabs; beautiful illustrations

Brocks, Terry. THE SWORD OF SHANNARA. Ballantine, 1977. 726 p. \$6.95 paper. Grades 9-12

Young Shea Ohmsford is incredulous when a mysterious wanderer reveals Shea to be heir to fabled sword that his distant ancestor wielded against the evil Warlock Lord; fleeing their quiet homeland to avoid Warlock Lord's horrible emissary, Shea and his company of elves, dwarves, and the like embark on seemingly hopeless mission: to claim the magic sword and destroy the evil Lord forever; a far cry from Tolkien's richness, but absorbing for lovers of heroic quest fantasy

Budbill, David. BONES ON BLACK SPRUCE MOUNTAIN. Dial, 1978. 126 p. \$6.46. Grades 7-9

Camping on Black Spruce Mountain gives Daniel and Seth, wilderness-wise teenagers, opportunities to put their skills to use and think over personal problems; when bad feelings flair between them, the wilderness forces a more mature, responsible relationship; a dark cave yielding bones on Black Spruce's summit also leads to revelations; fans of Budbill's SNOWSHOE TREK TO OTTER RIVER will enjoy story about same two boys; easy vocabulary, much dialogue, short sentences, and short paragraphs will appeal to less apt readers; beautifully worded (Wilkes County)

Bulla, Clyde Robert, and Michael Syson. CONQUISTA! Crowell, 1978. 34 p. \$7.49. Grades 3-6

In 1541 on a lonely North American plain Little Wolf, who has never seen a horse, awaits a sign from the sun god that will reveal to him his man-name; at the same time a horse escapes the expeditionary force led by Spanish conquistador, Coronado; the adventure that follows will whet young readers'

CONQUISTA! (Cont'd)

appetites for historical fiction; exciting boy-and-horse theme within larger context of coming-of-age story; action-packed illustrations; concluding chapter summarizes significance of Spanish introduction of horses into American Indian life; brief; large print

Bunting, Eve. THE HAUNTING OF KILDORAN ABBEY. Warne, 1978. 159 p. \$6.95. Grades 6-9

Their families already dead from mid-19th century potato famine, a group of Irish teen-agers determines to find food for friends and save them from sure death; their biggest problem is convincing English authorities that their cruel and unjust landlord is a thief; action plot, interesting characterizations, entertaining reading

Burman, Ben Lucien. HIGH TREASON AT CATFISH BEND. Vanguard, 1977. (Also available from Penguin for \$1.95 paper.) 147 p. \$6.95. Grades 4-12

Fifth title in series featuring Catfish Bend animals, who dramatize human foibles; dissatisfied with home, animals head for California, sharing many adventures and acquiring interesting assortment of fellow malcontents along the way; when others return home, a bible-toting rattlesnake stays in California ("a wonderful place for preachers"); children will enjoy story, adults will appreciate satire, and teachers can take advantage of both

Burn, Doris. THE TALE OF LAZY LIZARD CANYON. Putnam, 1977. unp. \$5.29. Grades 2-5

Humorously expressive, sepia-toned drawings on almost every page illustrate tall tale about feud between Old Bull Hokum and Old Bronco Burley families over best watering hole in Lazy Lizard Canyon; while two of Old Bull's sons fight and feud with Old Bronco's sons, Lafe, the third son, with gentleness and a harmonica, woos and wins Old Bronco's daughter, Mattie Mae ("an angel from heaven"), effecting a truce between the warring families; for young independent readers who will appreciate cowboy lingo (ASU)

Burnford, Sheila. BEL RIA. Little, 1977. 215 p. \$7.95. Grades 8-12

Animal lovers will laugh and weep over story of a performing dog who goes on to brighten the lives of successive owners after the old Gypsy woman who trained him is killed by German Stukas strafing France in summer of 1940; moving, tender tale by the author of THE INCREDIBLE JOURNEY

Burnham, Sophy. BUCCANEER. Warne, 1977. 175 p. \$6.95. Grades 4-7

Julie, who never pleases her father, is the only one who can ride wild Buccaneer in this study of a spunky kid unfairly compared to her traditionally feminine older sister; in the end Julie makes peace with the animal, her father, and her rebellious self; fairly entertaining horse story with a character whose problems will be familiar to girls whose parents don't want tomboys; marred by some trite writing

Byars, Betsy. THE CARTOONIST. Viking, 1978. 119 p. \$6.95. Grades 5-8

The attic domain where Alfie, precociously artistic loner, draws cartoons and escapes his TV-crazed mother, unhappy sister, and grumpy grandpa, is threatened by the return of Bubba, his older brother and a jock hero adored by Mom; Alfie's lonely struggle for understanding and stakes in the family setup is poignantly,

THE CARTOONIST. (Cont'd)

wittily caught; some funny-sad scenes and marvelous satire (Mom's appeal to attic-bound Alfie to "come down and study in front of television--it'll take your mind off what you're doing"); a winner

Byfield, Barbara Ninde. ANDREW AND THE ALCHEMIST. Doubleday, 1977. 103 p. \$5.95. Grades 4-6

Andrew, 11-year-old apprentice to an alchemist, helps save the King's treasury; dragons, dungeons, and spiders trained to take messages spice up light, fast-moving, fun story; not scary--the good guys win overwhelmingly; the chants and poetry of alchemy are appealing; nice drawings

Cameron, Eleanor. JULIA AND THE HAND OF GOD. Dutton, 1977. 168 p. \$6.95. Grades 4-6

Julia, a romantic, impractical, funny 11-year-old, imagines disasters like earthquake which shook her native San Francisco 20 years before; for such fears she is constantly criticized by unsympathetic grandmother, brilliant older brother, and rather harassed widowed mother; problems with herself lead to various other troubles, until Julia's best moment when she helps save important artwork during a fire which destroys part of the city; characters somewhat stereotyped at times; ending ties up pieces rather patly (Caldwell County)

Carr, Terry, ed. THE INFINITE ARENA: SEVEN SCIENCE FICTION STORIES ABOUT SPORTS. Nelson, 1977. 191 p. \$6.95. Grades 7-12

Seven well-known science fiction writers contribute stories dealing with futuristic sports; Silverberg, Anderson, and Clarke, young peoples' favorites, write about solar yachting through space, racing kladnars for betting purposes, and playing baseball with Hokas; appealing to both sports fans and sci fi readers; notes about individual authors and plots introduce each story (Wilkes County)

Cate, Dick. NEVER IS A LONG, LONG TIME. Nelson, 1976. 92 p. \$5.95. Grades 3-6

Gentle story of a young boy's family, of warmth, devotion, love, of young life and old, of birth and death, and of the healing power of spring; wonderful children's story showing unselfishness, humor, joy, caring; contrary to dust jacket, the dog is not the boy's best friend--Grandma is; English setting adds another learning dimension without cluttering narrative; pen-and-ink drawings; good read-aloud selection

Cavanna, Betty. RUFFLES AND DRUMS. Morrow, 1975. 224 p. \$5.95. Grades 7-12

Daily routine suffers drastically when wounded British soldier is tended by Kent household; 16-year-old Sarah's resentment hastens her decision to marry Tom Fletcher when he returns from the Revolution. But spring comes again--and Sarah has a change of heart! (Wilkes County)

Chadwick, Roxane. DON'T SHOOT. Lerner, 1978. 38 p. \$5.95. Grades 4-7

Young Nick, Eskimo boy who wants to preserve Alaskan wilderness, seeks to foil plans of two polar bear hunters but ends up having to kill a bear himself to save one of the men; high-interest/low-vocabulary title which almost flops because of extremely choppy sentences breaking story's flow; will hold interest of very slowest readers who need more than a "Dick and Jane" plot; illustrated with black-on-white india ink washes second grade reading level

Christopher, John. EMPTY WORLD. Dutton, 1978. 134 p. \$7.50. Grades 6-12

Neil, English teen-ager numbed by his family's death in auto accident, scarcely notices onset of plague that almost decimates earth; from India a virulent virus sweeps the world, its victims stricken by sudden aging and death within days; Neil survives his bout and, destitute, wanders to London where he joins other survivors of now "empty world"; science fiction at its best--can be read by younger readers as straight adventure and by older readers for ethical and moral questions raised (UNC-CH)

Christopher, Matt. JOHNNY NO HIT. Little, 1977. 43 p. \$4.95. Grades 2-4

Roy Burke's threats psyche out Johnny Webb, causing Johnny to strike out in baseball game between teams; Johnny's fear almost causes him to throw the game until he decides Roy is bluffing; although the solution to Johnny's problem is weak, the book and its many colorful illustrations meet a definite need--boys will eagerly read; large print

Chute, B. J. KATIE: AN IMPERTINENT FAIRY TALE. Dutton, 1978. 216 p. \$7.95. Grades 11-12

Youngest of four beautiful daughters, Katie Thorne stands apart from her mother and sisters who love the marriageless freedom of operating a male boarding house and discourage Katie's old-fashioned desires for chastity and marriage; Katie fails to net a spouse in several encounters, each coyly humorous and delicately expressed, but finally Bartholomew ends the drought; although subject matter is somewhat mature, author tactfully focuses on Katie's innocent beauty, holding reader's interest to the end; lightly satirical take-off on fairy tale format (Northampton County)

Clapp, Patricia. I'M DEBORAH SAMFSON: A SOLDIER IN THE WAR OF THE REVOLUTION. Lothrop, 1977. 176 p. \$5.61. Grades 5-7

Deborah Sampson tells her own story in fictionalized account of American Revolutionary War heroine who disguised herself as a man and fought in battles undetected by her male comrades; spirited, fast-moving fiction that re-creates the bold flavor of the times in appealing portrait of a spunky female soldier

Cleary, Beverly. RAMONA AND HER FATHER. Morrow, 1977. 186 p. \$6.01. Grades 3-5

In 1978 Newbery Honor Book, Ramona's father loses his job and gets cross, Mother goes to work full-time, and cat won't eat cheaper brand of cat food; Ramona, second-grader longing for Whopperburgers and the return of a happy family, tries to "smile prettily" and skip to school so she can "make a million dollars acting in television commercials"; realistic about family troubles, reassuring on what makes a happy family; Ramona is spunky character who has appeared in earlier works; excellent for children in a world of parents' problems only partially understood

Cleaver, Vera and Bill. DUST OF THE EARTH. Lippincott, 1975. 159 p. \$6.95. (Also available from NAL for \$1.25 paper.) Grades 7-12

Described on January 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Clifford, Eth. THE CURSE OF THE MOONRAKER: A TALE OF SURVIVAL. Houghton, 1977. 188 p. \$6.95. Grades 8-12

Well-researched novel based on 1866 shipwreck of American square-rigger, the MOONRAKER, and its cargo of gold in South Pacific; 10 survivors include the cabin boy, Cat; their determination to live and the odd lot of people involved help 13-year-old Cat mature quickly; believable characters; exciting story (ASU)

Clymer, Eleanor. THE GET-AWAY CAR. Dutton, 1978. 149 p. \$7.50. Grades 4-6

"Fun First, Work Later" is the motto of Grandma Miklusk, who runs "away from it all" with the neighborhood children; homework, laundry, housecleaning, and family problems spur Grandma, her granddaughter Maggie, and others to flee in a borrowed car to Grandma's cousin's; some delightful fairy tale ingredients in unbelievably satisfying story; middle graders will want a granny just like Grandma Miklusk (Wilkes County)

Cohen, Barbara. BENNY. Lothrop, 1977. 154 p. \$5.21. Grades 4-6

Set in 1939 in New Jersey, this portrait of a warm Jewish family features Benny, who had rather play baseball than help Pop at the store or study like his brainy brother Sheldon; friendship with Arnulf, a homesick refugee from Hitler's Germany, suddenly changes life for Benny and the whole Rifkind family; good characterizations

Colman, Hila. THE CASE OF THE STOLEN BAGELS. Crown, 1977. unp. \$5.95. Grades 2-5

Paul, allowing his temper free reign, earns reputation of class troublemaker; his reputation and his love of bagels incriminate him when bagels for an art project are stolen; determined to catch the real thief, Paul watches the school through the night and spots the villains--raccoons; valuable message about responsibility and reputation without sermonizing; adequate black-and-white illustrations

Colman, Hila. THE SECRET LIFE OF HAROLD THE BIRD WATCHER. Crowell, 1978. 71 p. \$5.79. Grades 4-6

Daydreaming Harold rises to true courage when he stops burly Spike from shooting the beloved ducks who live on Connecticut lake where Harold dreams and observes wildlife; although a real-life hero at the conclusion, Harold remains cautious about sharing his feelings and interests--only the reader is privileged to know the real Harold; lack of dialogue may deter some, but plot and characters will interest nature lovers (UNC-CH)

Conford, Ellen. HAIL, HAIL CAMP TIMBERWOOD. Little, 1978. 151 p. \$6.95. Grades 5-8

Typical summer camp story about Melanie and her first stay away from home; at first frightened, homesick, unable to do anything right, she gradually begins to make friends, including a boyfriend, and performs fairly well in athletic activities; summer ends with Melanie being "campsick" but also a more independent, secure person; excellent pen-and-ink drawings

Coombs, Patricia. DORRIE AND THE DREAMYARD MONSTERS. Lothrop, 1977. unp. \$5.49. Grades 2-4

When Big Witch, dashing off to save Witchville from a year of nightmares, grabs a bottle of vanilla instead of magic potion, little witch Dorrie saves the day, finding a way to tame the nightmare monsters and restore sweet dreams to Witchville; will delight witch stories lovers; amusing pink-and-gray illustrations; large print

Corbett, Scott. THE FOOLISH DINOSAUR FIASCO. Little, 1978. 48 p. \$5.95. Grades 2-5

Nick and his dog Bert outwit evil Dr. Merlin in Dinosaur Land but not before many hair-raising adventures with a vicious Tyrannosaurus Rex and more peaceable brontosauruses; harum-scarum sequel to DR. MERLIN'S MAGIC SHOP and THE GREAT CUSTARD PIE PANIC; action-packed, color drawings

Corbett, Scott. THE GREAT MCGONIGGLE RIDES SHOTGUN. Little, 1977. 50 p. \$5.95. Grades 2-5

Ken and Mac ("the Great McGoniggle") unwittingly become covers for a banker scheming to steal valuable bonds during a transfer; alerted by banker's suspicious behavior, Mac grabs the bonds at a gas station and hides them in ladies' restroom; thieves kick down the door, demand the bonds, and leave with a hostage, whereupon the boys race to police with real bonds, the robbers having stolen a folder of paper towels; zany adventure; good line drawings

Corcoran, Barbara. HEY, THAT'S MY SOUL YOU'RE STOMPING ON. Atheneum, 1978. 122 p. \$6.95. Grades 7-12

Sixteen-year-old Rachel, at Palm Springs to visit her grandparents while her parents resolve marital problems, finds herself surrounded by retired people until she meets a teen-aged brother and sister, Alan and Ariadne, with more problems than she has; meaningful and entertaining bibliotherapy (Wilkes County)

Coren, Alan. BUFFALO ARTHUR. Little, 1978. 70 p. \$5.95. Grades 4-6

Tells how 10-year-old Buffalo Arthur takes on a man's job and catches cattle rustlers; a little stilted in the beginning but smooths out; some third graders may also enjoy this; illustrated with watercolors

Coren, Alan. THE LONE ARTHUR. Little, 1978. 72 p. \$5.95. Grades 3-6

Tells how "The Lone Arthur," 10-year-old detective, rides into Dodge City and puts his genius to work in response to advertisement by owners of the Yellow T Seafood Restaurant for "a top detective to track down robbers and bring 'em to justice!"; a companion to BUFFALO ARTHUR; both have long introductions which detract from otherwise well-written, interesting stories; watercolor illustrations

Cresswell, Helen. A GAME OF CATCH. Macmillan, 1977. 44 p. \$5.95. Grades 6-9

Visiting in an English village, Kate and Hugh tour the local castle-museum where they play a game of catch--but more voices than their own join in the game; exciting book on time travel and strange encounters, graphically illustrated, very sensitively presented; outstanding impressionistic illustrations (Caldwell County)

Cresswell, Helen. BAGTHORPES UNLIMITED: BEING THE THIRD PART OF THE BAGTHORPE SAGA. Macmillan, 1978. 180 p. \$6.95. Grades 5-8

The young Bagthorpes booby-trap their family reunion with spiders, mold, fungus, and rotten eggs for bible-carrying Aunt Penelope who hates germs; the reunion turns into a melee and a feuding good time is had by all; good read-aloud; humorous, lively family story with good character development (Wilkes County)

Cresswell, Helen. ORDINARY JACK: BEING THE FIRST PART OF THE BAGTHORPE SAGA. Macmillan, 1977. 195 p. \$6.95. Grades 5-8

Jack feels ordinary compared to the other flamboyant, talented Bagthorpes; aided by his black sheep uncle, Jack plots to become family psychic; remarkably well-drawn comic characters, almost caricatures; advanced, interesting vocabulary: "transmogrified," "naiad"; good dialogue; fast wit; first of a trilogy; funny, well-written book that will particularly please students who feel outshone

Curry, Jane Louise. THE BASSUMTYTE TREASURE. Atheneum, 1978. 130 p. \$6.95. Grades 5-7

Red-headed, 10-year-old Tommy Bassumtyte flies from his American home to England to live with a cousin he has never met; at Boxleton House Tommy is caught up in mystery of the Bassumtyte treasure and Boxleton House's secret room; a strong sense of family heritage and loyalties enhance intriguing historical mystery in which Mary Stuart and concepts of time and space travel play no little part (UNC-CH)

Dahl, Roald. THE WONDERFUL STORY OF HENRY SUGAR AND SIX MORE. Knopf, 1977. 225 p. \$6.99. Also available from Bantam for \$1.95 paper. Grades 6-12

Startling mixtures of fantasy and realism, heavy British flavor, unpredictable plots, fine characterization; in title story Henry Sugar, before he becomes a yogi-gambler-philanthropist, is a wealthy, foppish playboy, one of the type "to be found drifting like seaweed all over the world"; original style and content; enigmatic tales may baffle some readers; some violence and cruelty; nonfiction piece on how Dahl became a writer is a marvelous model of autobiography for students; excellent for sophisticated, imaginative readers

Danziger, Paula. THE PISTACHIO PRESCRIPTION. Delacorte, 1978. 154 p. \$6.95. Also available from Dell for \$1.50 paper. Grades 6-9

Cassie is a 13-year-old with problems--a beautiful mother and sister who make her feel unattractive, asthma, divorcing parents, an outsider around the "in" crowd, an addiction to pistachio nuts at moments of crisis; well-drawn, believable character with whom younger teens will sympathize; clever dialogue, contemporary humor, realistic portrayal of early teen-age pressures and responses; readers will be engrossed (Fayetteville City)

de Angeli, Marguerite. WHISTLE FOR THE CROSSING. Doubleday, 1977. 107 p. \$5.95. Grades 4-6

Twelve-year-old Eddie and his friend Tom treasure hunt in the William Penn Estate ruins, fish, camp, and do chores for their families; Eddie goes with his engineer father on the first railroad run from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh in 1852; interesting to young railroad buffs; pencil drawings (Wilkes County)

de Camp, L. Sprague. THE GREAT FETISH. Doubleday, 1978. 177 p. \$7.95.
Grades 9-12

Marko Prokopiu, young scholar sentenced to life in prison for teaching forbidden concepts, breaks jail and travels across his world, a colony of the old planet Earth, which has degenerated into barbarism; in a series of satirical encounters with cultures like those on Earth, Marko finally discovers the secret of his planet at the temple of Einstein--"the Great Fetish" turns out to be a box of microfiche containing all the knowledge of old Earth; well written, humorous

Distad, Audree. THE DREAM RUNNER. Harper, 1977. 151 p. \$5.79. \$1.95 paper.
Grades 5-9

Described on September 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Dixon, Paige. SUMMER OF THE WHITE GOAT. Atheneum, 1977. 105 p. \$5.95. Grades 4-7

Gordon Mohlen, high school senior, spends his summer at Glacier National Park in Rocky Mountains, studying habits of mountain goats and tagging them for future examination; story of little drama but much factual information and description regarding Gordon's difficult project; evokes respect for solitary life of the goats; bibliography and background information (Caldwell County)

Duncan, Lois. SUMMER OF FEAR. Little, 1976. 217 p. \$5.95. (Also available from Dell for \$1.25 paper.) Grades 6-9

Described on September 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Dunnahoo, Terry. WHO NEEDS ESPIE SANCHEZ? Dutton, 1977. 133 p. \$7.95. Grades 6-9

Who needs Espie Sanchez? A lot of people, it turns out, including wealthy 16-year-old Allison who drives sports car and pops breath mints to disguise her alcoholism; teen-age alcoholism is dominant theme of book set in rough Los Angeles barrio and fraught with grim realities--auto wrecks, filthy schools, prejudice against Mexican-Americans; third book about likeable young Mexican-American, Esperanza Sanchez, now a police youth volunteer

Dygard, Thomas J. RUNNING SCARED. Morrow, 1977. 187 p. \$5.21. Grades 5-8

Excellent sports story centered on college football coach who needs championship team but is burdened with quarterback afraid of getting hurt; told from coach's viewpoint; story provides exciting game action and good look at behind-the-scenes activity, especially Larry Hudson's battle with fear; easy reading level qualifies book for high-interest/low-vocabulary high school collections

Engel, Beth Bland. RIDE THE PINE SAPLING. Harper, 1978. 199 p. \$7.89.
Grades 7-9

The Great Depression summer of 1934 brings troubles and adjustments for 11-year-old Ann and her smalltown Georgia family; when a jobless father, pregnant mother, ailing grandmother, and roomers in the house create problems, Ann is consoled by the black housekeeper and a sympathetic boarder; good characterization; beautiful, realistic family novel (Wilkes County)

Epstein, Anne Merrick. GOOD STONES. Houghton, 1977. 204 p. \$6.95. Grades 5-9

Sisul Osborn, a half-breed orphaned at 12 when her Indian mother dies of TB, fends for herself in New Hampshire mountains rather than stay with cowardly aunt and drunken uncle; Sisul eats crayfish, lives in cave, finds the recluse Bruce; traveling together, they look for her Indian home; when the people she

GOOD STONES. (Cont'd)

finds there disappoint her, she has grown too wise to condemn them; lyrical description of the land in warm, uplifting lesson on interdependence; moving story, very real characters

Estes, Eleanor. THE LOST UMBRELLA OF KIM CHU. Atheneum, 1978. 86 p. \$7.95. Grades 3-6

New York City's Chinatown is setting for entertaining account of how nine-year-old Kim Chu recovers the lost umbrella awarded her father for most beautiful dragon in New Year's Day parade; while Kim Chu selects books at the library, someone apparently steals the elegant umbrella with its secret compartment, launching Kim Chu's great search over the city with her best friend, Mae Lee; excellent pen-and-ink drawings; rather fine print; adventurous and "scenic"

Fenner, Phyllis R., sel. THE ENDLESS DARK: STORIES OF UNDERGROUND ADVENTURE. Morrow, 1977. 192 p. \$6.43. Grades 8-12

Ten stories of underground adventures, ranging from true account of successful engineering efforts to locate entrance to California underground lake to fanciful story of the sure, deadly punishment of a contemptuous earthling who stumbles into a Martian cave; distinguished contributors include Geoffrey Household, P. Schuyler Miller, Kay Hugaard; illustrated

Ferry, Charles. O ZEBRON FALLS! Houghton, 1977. 213 p. \$7.95. Grades 7-12

Story of the senior year of 16-year-old Lukie Bishop in small Michigan town during World War II, the people, town, and events that make her know herself and grow up: her black friend Billy, her cold, troubled father, the boy she nearly guiltily marries because she blinded him in an accident, the gossip her uncle is really her father; ending is overly sweet and neat, but story is absorbing, moving

Fife, Dale. NORTH OF DANGER. Dutton, 1978. 72 p. \$6.95. Grades 5-9

Survival, loyalty, and trust are crucial elements in intriguing World War II tale of 12-year-old Arne Kristiansen, who must ski 200 miles across a frozen, darkening Norway to warn his scientist father not to return to their Nazi occupied home; as Arne's mission appears hopeless, he encounters a hermit trapper--the only man who can help him reach his father in time and who is, or at least once was, an officer in the German army (UNC-CH)

Fisher, Leonard Everett. LETTERS FROM ITALY. Four Winds, 1977. 100 p. \$6.95. Grades 6-12

Angelo Capello left Italy poor, lured by opportunities in America; sixty years later, wealthy and respected, his only son, an American soldier, dies on Italian soil; almost poetic language; minimal dialect; black-and-white scratch board illustrations are dynamic, human, emotionally beautiful; text is easy but subject may not appeal to all readers; depressing in parts but beautifully told; enriching for use in units on Italy or in discussions of immigrants

Fraschino, Edward. EDDIE SPAGHETTI. Harper, 1978. 114 p. \$5.79. Grades 3-6

"Kids, who are not my friends, call me Eddie Spaghetti," announces nine-year-old Eddie, thin and likable narrator of this warm recollection of growing up in 1940's; favorite radio programs, Tarzan movies, hated knickers, mixing Ivory flakes with water to make Christmas tree "snow," trips to the Bronx Zoo all are pleasant, diverting reading that tell us children never really change

Garfield, Leon. THE APPRENTICES. Viking, 1978. 316 p. \$10. Grades 8-12

Another 18th-century-flavored delight from talented Leon Garfield, whose pen recreates the period as deftly and vividly as Hogarth's brush; 12 stories featuring young apprentice tradesmen who struggle for livelihoods in London's teeming lanes and alleys; the apprentices shyly pursue winsome maids, fight off competitors, labor to please ornery masters, finally subdue ignoble emotions to enjoy character reformations, purged consciences; a veritable Smithfield Fair for young readers with lively interest in history and human nature; witty, probing, loving, beautifully descriptive

Garner, Alan. GRANNY REARDUN. Collins+World, 1978. 61 p. \$6.95. Grades 4-6

Joseph, an English "granny reardun" (child reared by grandparents), must decide on an apprenticeship; tradition dictates that he become a stone mason like his grandfather, but "the living dead weight" of stone holds no fascination for Joseph; the rector's wife hurries Joseph's decision when she insists on having a fine stone fence although the quarry is exhausted; second book in a series; illustrated with black-and-white etchings; British idioms (Wilkes County)

Gault, William Campbell. CUT-RATE QUARTERBACK. Dutton, 1977. 133 p. \$6.95. Grades 5-8

Joe Rogers relates his progress from high school quarterback through college and into the pros, where as a rookie quarterback he helps win the Super Bowl; stresses hard work necessary to getting to top in pro football; short chapters, good dialogue, plenty of action for football enthusiasts (Caldwell County)

Gipson, Fred. LITTLE ARLISS. Harper, 1978. 83 p. \$5.79. Grades 6-9

Fast-paced story of experiences of 12-year-old Arliss and the woes of growing up; to prove he is no longer "little Arliss," he pitches tantrums, throws rocks, takes risks, even captures a wild horse pursued by his father and other men; packed with action and laden with picturesque speech

Glaser, Dianne. AMBER WELLINGTON, WITCH WATCHER. Walker & Co., 1976. 120 p. \$5.85. (Also available from Dell for \$1.25 paper.) Grades 4-6

Described on September 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Gordon, Sheila. A MONSTER IN THE MAILBOX. Dutton, 1978. 71 p. \$6.95. Grades 2-4

Julius, with childhood faith, orders a \$2.99 "WALKING AND TALKING" monster from a mail order catalogue; when a fakey rubber monster finally arrives, disappointed Julius writes the manufacturer, requesting a refund; besides being an accurate record of childhood trust and disillusionment, the story is a fine, humorous depiction of warm family relationships; pen-and-ink illustrations

Greene, Bette. MORNING IS A LONG TIME COMING. Dial, 1978. 261 p. \$7.95. Grades 10-12

After high school graduation Patty Bergen feels she must leave Arkansas to discover her real self; it is especially important for her to test her strength by visiting the German home of Anton, whom she met in SUMMER OF MY GERMAN SOLDIER; a love affair in Paris is treated tastefully and becomes an important channel through which Patty finds self-worth; preview before purchase

Greene, Constance C. I AND SPROGGY. Viking, 1978. 155 p. \$7.95. Grades 4-6

Delightful, contemporary characters and dialogue spice up this story of 10-year-old Adam and his adjustment to an unconventional English stepsister; Sprogy is two months older and, worse, taller than Adam, plus irrepressible in a decidedly British way; humorous, touching; useful with children troubled by divorce or remarriage

Griffiths, Helen. GRIP: A DOG STORY. Holiday, 1978. 129 p. \$6.95. Grades 8-10

Chronicles the agony Dudley and his dog Grip, bred from long line of champion fighting dogs, suffer when the much petted Grip refuses to fight; dramatically demonstrates conflict between a boy's loyalty to his father and his love for his dog; well-written, interesting; British setting

Griffiths, Helen. RUNNING WILD. Holiday, 1977. 192 p. \$6.95. Grades 5-8

Set in Spain, story centers on Pablo who loves his dog and her litter to exclusion of obedience and common sense when events prove that marauding "wolves" destroying farm animals and attacking people are actually the pups, grown up and reverted to wild animals; Pablo must face consequences of disobeying his grandfather's order to drown the pups after their mother's death when he instead loosed them in surrounding forest; well-written, well-paced story, raising moral and ethical questions for middle graders that cannot be answered patly

Grohskopf, Bernice. CHILDREN IN THE WIND. Atheneum, 1977. 190 p. \$6.95. Grades 6-12

Lenore tells how she begins to understand herself by recognizing problems and frustrations of her two friends; Marah, individualistic and intellectual, copes with alcoholic mother who is constantly tormented by memories of concentration camp; Chris, beautiful and rich, abandons her neurotic, childlike mother for love and security with her ex-Nazi father; sensitive, well-written portrayal of self-survival; despite parents' problems, children find their own identities

Haar, Jaap ter. THE WORLD OF BEN LIGHTHART. Delacorte, 1977. 123 p. \$5.95. (Also available from Dell for \$1.25 paper.) Grades 6-10

Described on September 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Hale, Arlene. THE WINDS OF SUMMER. Little, 1976. 237 p. \$6.95. Grades 7-12

Romance, intrigue, and danger visit Gold Dust City when young, pretty sociology teacher, Fleur, committed to Devlin but drawn irresistibly to Bill, spends an action-packed summer working in the Western tourist center; simple sentence structure, direct story line, easy vocabulary, suspenseful plot make attractive high-interest/low-vocabulary material

Hall, Lynn. OWNEY: THE TRAVELING DOG. Garrard, 1977. 48 p. \$4.28. Grades 2-5

Owney, the Albany Post Office's pet dog, is introduced to the thrill of travel when he follows his mailbag bed aboard a train; after initial taste of adventure, there's no stopping Owney, whose travels lead him from coast to coast and around the world; based on true episodes from life of world's most traveled dog; highly entertaining; realistic color illustrations

Hartling, Peter. Translated from the German by Anthea Bell. OMA. Harper, 1977. 96 p. \$6.79. Grades 4-6

Delightful "generation gap" story translated from German; Oma, Kalle's grandmother, is rearing Kalle after his parents' deaths; the two share mutual anxiety in frank discussions and episodes dealing realistically with fears, frailties--e.g., Oma's meager pension, Kalle's big appetite, Oma's modesty about her aging body; Kalle's story and Oma's alternate with each other in text, a successful device for demonstrating "parents are people too"; winner of 1976 German Children's Book Award

Hassler, Jon. FOUR MILES TO PINECONE. Warne, 1977. 117 p. \$6.95. Grades 7-12

When 16-year-old Tom witnesses a robbery in which his best friend participates, he must decide whether to say nothing and keep a friend or tell and protect his friend from more serious trouble; Tom's decision is made for him when a crisis requires his dangerous four-mile run to Pinecone for help; dramatically illustrates a common moral and ethical dilemma; easy reading; large print; realistic and humorous comments about adults (Alexander County; Wilkes County)

Hausman, Jim. MYSTERY AT SANS SOUCI. Atheneum, 1978. 180 p. \$6.95. Grades 5-7

When the Hausman family, nine strong, rents a small house in village of Sans Souci near Paris, they are unprepared for the hostility of someone who wants them out; 12-year-old Jim, aided by brothers and sisters and a local boy, Pierre, finally resolves the mystery; humor, suspense, and a full cast of suspicious Frenchmen mixed nicely in exotic setting (UNC-CH)

Hayes, Geoffrey. THE ALLIGATOR AND HIS UNCLE TOOTH. Harper, 1977. 88 p. \$5.79. Grades 3-4

Daydreaming Corduroy, a young alligator, is longing for excitement and adventure when he meets his "no-good" Uncle Tooth, who tells him about seafaring adventures; in the end young Corduroy gets a big surprise; fast-moving plot, interesting dialogue; black-and-white illustrations are small but clearly detailed; good read-aloud for third or fourth graders (Caldwell County)

Hayes, Richard. THE SECRET ARMY. Viking, 1977. 212 p. \$8.95. Grades 5-9

A rousing good story from pen of 15-year-old English boy; all about group of schoolgirl terrorists, the ominously self-styled "Nosotros," who employ tranquilizer darts, soundless helicopters, and extortion notes in their near overthrow of London's Linwood Primary School; hardly believable but a lot of fun; precocious style, incredible plot, easy vocabulary will delight middle grade and junior high readers

Haynes, Betsy. THE GHOST OF GRAVESTONE HEARTH. Nelson, 1977. 128 p. \$5.95. Grades 5-8

An unhappy boy vacationing with his family, Charlie Potter finds the gravestone of Abel Blacklaw in the chimney of their summer home and meets Abel's ghost; invisible to all but Charlie, Abel enlists Charlie and Fixin' John, an old beachcomber with a metal detector, to search for a chest of gold buried over 200 years ago, making much trouble for Charlie in the process (Caldwell County)

Heide, Florence Parry, and Roxanne Heide. MYSTERY AT KEYHOLE CARNIVAL.
Whitman, 1977. 128 p. \$3.38. Grades 3-6

Familiar Spotlight Club members find summer jobs at carnival where mysterious accidents occur; they immediately search out clues to culprit scheming to wreck carnival's chances of becoming permanent amusement park; toward the end, clues and motives become repetitious, but overall story is fast-paced, suspenseful, easy reading; high-interest/low-vocabulary title

Heide, Florence Parry, and Roxanne Heide. MYSTERY AT SOUTHPORT CINEMA.
Whitman, 1978. 128 p. \$3.75. Grades 3-6

Cindy, Jay, and Dexter are young people in the Spotlight Club formed to solve mysteries that arise in their town; through logical deduction and luck they finally uncover the thief who steals money from a neighborhood grocery store, then disappears into the Southport Cinema; appealing to reluctant readers

Heide, Florence Parry, and Roxanne Heide. MYSTERY OF THE MIDNIGHT MESSAGE.
Whitman, 1977. 128 p. \$3.56. Grades 3-6

Blizzard conditions force Cindy and Jay, members of the Spotlight Club, to stay overnight at a half-empty motel; during the night they receive a strange phone call which leads them to clues about a crime in the making; fast-paced, exciting mystery (Caldwell County)

Hendrich, Paula. THE GIRL WHO SLIPPED THROUGH TIME. Lothrop, 1978. 128 p.
\$5.95. Grades 7-12

Para, 14-year-old daughter of pair-bonded scientist parents of 2040 A.D., slips through a time warp from her world of climatized domes in 21st century to wide open spaces of American Great Plains in the 1930's; Granny Twigg and her foster son, Shandy, take Para, silver jumpsuit and all, into their household where she observes man destroying wildlife and the environment; science fiction and ecology fans will enjoy messages; teenagers will sympathize with conflict between parents and children; readable, well written: occasional swear word does not seem out of place (Wilkes County)

Hildick, E. W. THE CASE OF THE INVISIBLE DOG. Macmillan, 1977. 101 p.
Grades 3-5

The McGurk Organization--three boys and one girl--sets out to solve the mystery of Dennis the invisible dog, who belongs to Brains, a nonmember who'll do almost anything for membership; challenging case for young detectives; shows how one spunky kid handles being left out of group; appealing drawings (NCCU)

Hildick, E. W. LOUIE'S RANSOM. Knopf, 1978. 186 p. \$6.95. Grades 6-12

Fourth book about tough English milkman, Louie Lay, who, like the Hardy boys, attracts danger and intrigue; this time gruff Louie is kidnapped along with three young people by terrorists demanding money and release of revolutionaries; while authorities try to outmaneuver terrorists, Louie devises plans of his own; delightful portrait of Louie, comical in its unlikelihood and mysterious in its complexity; characterizations are as appealing as plot; sure to be enjoyed by mystery fans (UNC-CH)

Hodge, Jane Aiken. RED SKY AT NIGHT--LOVERS' DELIGHT? Coward, 1977. 287 p.
\$8.95. Grades 10-12

After her father's suicide, Kate and her mother must relinquish their home to an American heir and resort to roles of governess and housekeeper on a neighboring estate; Kate, disguised as a man, joins the rebellious English peasantry tired of one long war with Napoleon; Regency England, adventure, intrigue, and romance characterize fast-paced novel; some profanity (Alexander County)

Hoke, Helen, sel. CREEPIES, CREEPIES, CREEPIES: A COVEY OF QUIVER-AND-QUAVER TALES. Watts, 1977. 178 p. \$5.90. Grades 9-12

Just what it proclaims itself--a collection of "creepies," a "covey of quiver-and-quaver tales" by some of the best spine-tinglers--e.g., Robert Bloch, Clifford Simak, Eric Ambrose; all have comfortable, everyday settings and ordinary, familiar people--until those settings and those people quite suddenly succumb to terrifying, bizarre creatures, plants, alien forces...

Hoke, Helen, ed. TERROR, TORMENTS, AND TRAUMAS: AN ANTHOLOGY. Nelson, 1978. 160 p. \$6.90. Grades 10-12

Anthology of 14 macabre short stories by Evelyn Waugh, Robert Graves, Ray Bradbury, Franz Kafka, and less well-known writers; brief introductory remarks precede each story; appealing for those who enjoy such TV programs as NIGHT GALLERY, but may also serve to lead readers to longer, less grim examples of some of the writers' works

Holland, Isabelle. THE DEMAURY PAPERS. Rawson, 1977. (Available from Putnam.) 326 p. \$8.95. Grades 10-12

Just the thing for suspense lovers--a pretty heroine, a Georgian mansion in the English countryside, a mysterious English aristocrat whose interests in the heroine may or may not be healthy, and of course an attempt on the heroine's life during the course of things; better than average example of the genre; nice writing style, well-plotted story, good characterizations

Holt, Victoria. THE DEVIL ON HORSEBACK. Doubleday, 1977. 358 p. \$8.95. Grades 10-12

Typical Victoria Holt, this time about English school mistress brought into French count's household as companion to his daughter who has an illegitimate child; the count's wife dies mysteriously, the Revolution is brewing, and intrigue abounds; light but entertaining for those students beginning to read historical romances

Hooker, Ruth, and Carole Smith. THE PELICAN MYSTERY. Whitman, 1977. 128 p. \$3.56. Grades 3-5

Grant and Patti accompany their mother, recuperating from a long illness, to Florida Keys where with their new friend, Kate, they help solve several mysteries involving a missing pelican, treasure hunters, and a burglar

Hoover, H. M. THE DELIKON. Viking, 1977. 148 p. \$6.95. Grades 7-12

The Delikons have taken over Earth, not as evil conquerors but as missionaries determined to bring order to the chaotic way earth people live; Varina, the Delikos teacher, finds earth people attractive and assists the revolt against her own people so that humans can be human; well written; good woman protagonist; intriguing, non-violent plot (ASU)

Hoover, H. M. THE RAINS OF ERIDAN. Viking, 1977. 183 p. \$7.95. Grades 6-12

Biologist Theodora Leslie, on a field trip across beautiful, strange planet of Eridan, finds young Karen left for dead; together Theo and Karen discover that the fear on this frontier planet is a virus and that the rains of Eridan are bringing to life a strange creature, dried up by the process of cryptobiosis; well-written science fiction; philosophy on love and loss applies equally well to Earth; strong feminist appeal in main characters

Hopkins, Lee Bennett. MAMA. Knopf, 1977. 90 p. \$5.99. Also available from Dell for \$1.25 paper. Grades 4-9

Described on September 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Houston, James. FROZEN FIRE: A TALE OF COURAGE. Atheneum, 1977. 149 p. \$6.95. Grades 5-9

First-rate adventure story about young Matthew Morgan and his Eskimo friend who brave fierce Canadian Arctic, searching for Matthew's stranded father; powerful narrative based on actual events involving young boy lost in Canadian Arctic who survived incredible saga; evocative descriptions of cold North Country; Houston, an authority on Arctic life, reconfirms his credentials as topnotch yarnspinner

Hunter, Evan. ME AND MR. STENNER. Lippincott, 1976. 157 p. \$6.95. Also available from Dell for \$1.25 paper. Grades 4-7

Described on September 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Hutchins, Pat. FOLLOW THAT BUS! Greenwillow, 1977. 102 p. \$5.94. Grades 3-5

Stereotypical, absentminded teacher "leads" second graders (who are solicitous of their teacher instead of making fun of her) on a bus trip to the farm; bus gets mixed up with not-too-bright robbers, chases ensue, and switched bags increase confusion; improbable story with good pictures fitting slapstick mood; cartoon-like drawings help explain some British idioms, such as "carryall" and "tandem"; vocabulary--e.g., "mesmerized"--makes reading difficult for intended audience, but the high good spirits will propel many past such hurdles (Caldwell County)

Jacob, Helen Pierce. THE DIARY OF THE STRAWBRIDGE PLACE. Atheneum, 1978. 159 p. \$6.95. Grades 4-7

Flesh-and-blood portrayal of those who ran the Underground Railroad in fictional account of the Strawbridge family, twin daughters, Victory and Faith, and the twins' brothers who all enter into plans for harboring and transporting Negroes; because runaway slaves brought high rewards for their captors, the Strawbridge place becomes target of greedy men's suspicion; much action and excitement; excellent motivational reading correlating with U. S. history

Jennings, Gary. THE ROPE IN THE JUNGLE. Lippincott, 1976. 225 p. \$7.95. Grades 7-12

Tense, satisfying adventure story in which orphaned Trey Clarke sets off in 1905 to Mexican jungles with Calab Crabtree, master ropemaker, to repair four-mile wire rope weighing 18,000 pounds; when Trey meets Liesl and her archaeologist father, Gustav Wolf-Heinze, he discovers link between Wolf-Heinze and the broken rope; good adventure story that includes deadly insects, a witch doctor, mysterious ruins, plus much factual information about Mexican geography and wildlife (Wilkes County)

Johnston, Norma. IF YOU LOVE ME, LET ME GO. Athenaeum, 1978. 162 p. \$7.95.
Grades 7-12

Allison, growing up in 1920's, realizes she should make her own decisions rather than depend on her friend Lisa; good insight into geriatrics through an elderly grandmother and into boy-girl relationships by way of two romances; touches on separation of Lisa's parents and its effect on her; readable and realistic

Johnston, Velda. THE ETRUSCAN SMILE. Dodd, 1977. 213 p. \$7.95. Grades 9-12

Samantha, an English teacher, travels to Italy to learn the fate of her missing sister; hostility in the village and wealthy neighbors' strange behavior are among mysteries that lead to unsavory discoveries about her sister and their Italian heritage; an attractive archaeologist helps save Samantha from her sister's fate as an ancient goddess looks on; romantic suspense (Wilkes County)

Jones, Diana Wynne. DOGSBODY. Greenwillow, 1977. 242 p. \$5.94. Grades 6-12

In fast-paced science fiction, the dog star Sirius, wrongly convicted of murder, is sentenced by his celestial equals to become a real dog on Earth; Sirius must adjust to joys and frustrations of being a pet while trying to complete seemingly impossible mission to regain his heavenly status; a finely drawn character, Sirius and his story never tend toward cuteness; absorbing plot; child protagonist is late elementary-junior high age, but high school students will enjoy story that keeps last surprise for last paragraph

Jones, Diana Wynne. POWER OF THREE. Greenwillow, 1977. 250 p. \$6.43. Grades 6-10

Intricate fantasy world inhabited by underwater Dorig, elf-like Lymen, and Giants; the ways and places they live, the deep steamy halls of the Dorig, are drawn in intriguing detail; halfway through the book readers discover that "Giants" are really people seeking to flood the area for a reservoir; a lesson in prejudice in fine work of imagination

Kaplan, Bess. THE EMPTY CHAIR. Harper, 1978. 243 p. \$7.89. Grades 6-12

Pre-teen Becky learns to accept herself as she learns to accept the finality of Mama's death and eventually Papa's new wife; details of poverty and harsh Canadian winters in the '30's, with descriptions of Jewish customs and observances, round out a realistic story about a plucky, believable little girl (UNC-CH)

Karl, Jean E. BELOVED BENJAMIN IS WAITING. Dutton, 1978. 150 p. \$7.95.
Grades 4-7

Lucinda Gratz, escaping parental quarrels and hateful neighborhood gang, finds refuge in abandoned caretaker's house at local cemetery; there she notices the statue of a small boy, Benjamin, who died in 1889, and soon they begin to talk together; when Benjamin disappears, readers must decide whether he was a visitor from another galaxy or only an imaginative outgrowth of Lucinda's mind; harsh reality of Lucinda's family background, combined with adventure and fantasy in caretaker's house, provide a boldly dramatic story; for enthusiasts of science fiction or fantasy (UNC-CH)

Karl, Jean E. THE TURNING PLACE: STORIES OF A FUTURE PAST. Dutton, 1976. 213 p. \$7.95. (Also available from Dell for \$1.50 paper.) Grades 6-10

Described on January 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Keith, Harold. THE OBSTINATE LAND. Crowell, 1977. 214 p. \$8.50. Grades 9-12

"Squatters," or "nesters," was cowmen's term for settlers during Oklahoma land run of 1893, and neither drought nor hail nor storms discourage Fritz Romberg's "nester" family; young Fritz finds satisfaction in growing crops, raising cows, providing for his mother and family after his dad dies; much research into Oklahoma land rush reflected in well-written tale of adventure, blood, and a bit of romance; for more mature readers

Kerr, M. E. GENTLEHANDS. Harper, 1978. 183 p. \$6.49. (Also available from Bantam for \$1.95 paper.) Grades 9-12

The growing up of Buddy Boyle in one climactic summer is theme of beautifully crafted juvenile novel about a 16-year-old Long Island soda jerk's romance with a wealthy, beautiful Bryn Mawr student; during a fateful summer Buddy, a thoroughly likable narrator, learns some harsh realities about bigotry and class consciousness, about drugs, about love, and about the complexity of family relationships; not the least among his lessons is the revelation that Grandfather Trenker, his emotional mainstay during this turbulent summer, is the infamous "Gentlehands," ex-S.S. officer of Nazi concentration camp; outstanding, first-priority purchase

Kingman, Lee. BREAK A LEG, BETSY MAYBE! Houghton, 1976. 245 p. \$7.95. Grades 7-12

Betsy Maybe, orphaned 17-year-old newcomer to Stoney Neck High School, joins a very active drama club and gains good friends--Jan who copes with an alcoholic mother, talented actor Harry whose irrepressible spirit delights, and especially Nick who is fighting for his life; gradually Betsy's own identity crisis is resolved, her loneliness and defensiveness unburdened; written in first person with chapters divided into acts and scenes; humorous, sensitive story about young people's hopes, fears, disappointments, strengths, weaknesses

Kingman, Lee. HEAD OVER WHEELS. Houghton, 1978. 186 p. \$7.95. Grades 9-12

Sixteen-year-old identical twins, Kerry and Terry, are forced apart when auto accident paralyzes Terry; after months in hospital, Terry returns home to a different family situation--Kerry and his mother have had to find work, younger children are often alone, twins themselves no longer understand each other; with courage and humor, the family learns to cope; compelling story (Yadkin County)

Kooiker, Leonie. THE MAGIC STONE. Morrow, 1978. 224 p. \$6.43. Grades 4-7

Chris happens upon a magic stone which gives him power to change people into monkeys and see into the future and the past; Chris soon learns, however, that magic is not to be taken lightly; entertaining fantasy (UNC-CH)

Krensky, Stephen. A BIG DAY FOR SCEPTERS. Atheneum, 1977. 112 p. \$5.95. Grades 4-6

Calandar, a sorcerer who sometimes undertakes quests, is asked by both a goblin and a young boy to retrieve a scepter; as he helps the boy, Calandar foils goblin Grogol and throws in a bit of his own casual brand of magic; lots of smoky mists, evil whispers, glowing gems, and things that burst into flame; reminiscent of Tolkien's LORD OF THE RINGS; few characters; plot simple enough for a child to follow easily; fast and entertaining

Krensky, Stephen. THE DRAGON CIRCLE. Atheneum, 1977. 116 p. \$6.95.
Grades 3-5

The five Wynd children and their father enjoy a family tradition of practicing magic which comes in handy when they tangle with Quickblast, Shimmerscale, and the rest of a circle of dragons--who, incidentally, originated the recipe for shepherd's pie; a sword from a school play finally routs the fire-breathers; fast and funny; lots of action

Krensky, Stephen. WOODLAND CROSSINGS. Atheneum, 1977. 43 p. \$5.95. Grades 3-5

Five simple, entertaining fables about woodland plants and animals--a blackbird tricked into letting a captured worm go, a proud sunflower strangled by weeds, a caterpillar who scoffs at frivolous butterflies, a weasel who wishes to be a more majestic creature, an autumn leaf that discovers its role in onset of winter; excellent black-and-white illustrations by Jan Brett Bowler

Lamb, Hugh, ed. TERROR BY GASLIGHT: MORE VICTORIAN TALES OF TERROR.
Taplinger, 1976. 222 p. \$8.95. Grades 7-12

Macabre yarns and tales from Victorian era include Valdoreme's fiendish, fiery revenge over her husband and his mistress, a terrible death pit in Colorado, a sinister group of gypsies who bring wooden dolls to life with evil souls to destroy people; helpful background material about author's works precedes each tale; excellent for libraries with ghost story fans (Wilkes County)

Lampman, Evelyn Sibley. SQUAW MAN'S SON. Atheneum, 1978. 172 p. \$6.95.
Grades 4-10

Exciting historical story about young half-breed who must learn that neither his white blood nor his Indian blood can be ignored; book deals sensitively with problems of growing up and finding one's identity while providing accurate, dignified account of Indians' struggle to retain their land; strong characters, many based on historical figures, and strong story line (UNC-CH)

Langton, Jane. PAPER CHAINS. Harper, 1977. 172 p. \$6.49. Grades 9-12

The trials and tribulations of freshman year in college--mad crushes on professors, the attack on the tower bell, the inevitable mixers, fascination for a pretzel peddler, saying goodbye to friends who flunk out, exams; short chapters will appeal to slow readers; as rambling and disorganized as some freshmen girls; humorous (Wilkes County)

Ledner, Caryl. MARY WHITE. Bantam, 1977. 179 p. \$1.95 paper. Grades 7-12

Fictionalized account of Mary White, daughter of famous newspaperman William Allen White, whose brilliant, unconventional life was cut short at age 16 in an accident during horseback riding; excellent reading about a remarkable girl; Emporia, Kansas, setting gives good look at post-World War I middle America and its values

L'Engle, Madeleine. A SWIFTLY TILTING PLANET. Farrar, 1978. 278 p. \$7.95.
Grades 9-12

Time has passed and A WRINKLE IN TIME characters are growing up; Charles Wallace and the unicorn, Gaudior, undertake fascinating but dangerous journey back in time to save earth from a mad South American dictator; Meg communicates subconsciously with Charles, often rescuing him from desperate situations; sophisticated science fiction, difficult for average readers; well written, but many characters and events to keep straight; not so successful as previous stories about Murry family

Le Guin, Ursula K. VERY FAR AWAY FROM ANYWHERE ELSE. Atheneum, 1976. 89 p. \$5.95. (Also available from Bantam for \$1.50 paper.) Grades 7-12

Described on September 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Lerner, Sharon, and Christopher Cerf. STAR TREK: THE PRISONER OF VEGA. Random, 1977. 45 p. \$3.99. Grades 4-8

Good, wholesome, high interest-low vocabulary science fiction; dialogue moves plot quickly along; full-color (almost garish) illustrations and large print will appeal most to reluctant readers; a TV spinoff (Wilkes County)

LeRoy, Gen. HOTHEADS. Harper, 1977. 249 p. \$6.79. Grades 7-10

Well-written story on painful mixture of pride and shame that teen-agers feel about home and family; embarrassed by old-fashioned Italian parents, senile, wine-drinking grandfather who cannot speak English, and dilapidated house, 12-year-old Geneva and 14-year-old Jo face added problem of adjusting to new school; teen-agers will relate to Jo's numerous tricks to keep her boyfriend from meeting her family; well-developed characters, though Geneva's suddenly intense loyalty to her grandfather at end conflicts with her earlier attitude; useful in units on family relationships (Watauga County)

Levoy, Myron. ALAN AND NAOMI. Harper, 1977. 192 p. \$5.79. (Also available from Dell for \$1.50 paper.) Grades 6-12

In New York in 1944 Alan Silverman reluctantly and then compassionately helps Naomi, a French girl and Jewish like himself, overcome her psychotic withdrawal from reality after firsthand exposure to Nazi horrors; Alan succeeds, but Naomi suffers a relapse when children at school taunt her with anti-Semitic remarks; excellent characterization; equal amounts of humor and heartbreak; first-rate discussion stimulus (ASU)

Lingard, Joan. HOSTAGES TO FORTUNE. Nelson, 1977. 158 p. \$6.95. Grades 7-12

Fifth book in a series about Kevin and Sadie McCoy, young Irish couple living in England, and the ups and downs of their life--Kevin's insolent sister, money troubles, the hatred and defiance bred by Ireland's continuing violence with England and all that that means for the young Irish couple; comfortable, armchair reading for young people open to the human drama à la modern Britain

Lingard, Joan. SNAKE AMONG THE SUNFLOWERS. Nelson, 1977. 142 p. \$6.95. Grades 5-8

A deserted house surrounded by sunflowers intrigues three Scottish children who visit their maternal grandparents in south of France each year; when a German professor and his son open the house, speculation on its mystery increases as it seems to involve their unmarried aunt and an old romance; good entertainment despite unfortunately small type

Lipsyte, Robert. ONE FAT SUMMER. Harper, 1977. 152 p. \$5.79. Grades 8-12

Fat Robert plans a long, lazy summer, loafing around the lake cottage, eating ice cream and daydreaming of when he'll be a tall, thin hero; difficulties coping with a summer job, jealous local hoodlums, a sister's love affair, and his parent's marital problems give Robert the extra push to command his own destiny, grow up, and thin down; lots of action; good character development

Lofts, Nora. GAD'S HALL. Doubleday, 1977. 282 p. \$8.95. Grades 10-12

The experiences of 20th-century Spender family and mid-18th century Thorley, told through flashback 100 years after a sealed room in Gad's Hall, secluded Tudor farmhouse, is opened to reveal grotesque pictures hidden behind white-wash; involved, detailed plot typical of Lofts' work; only light touches of the supernatural but abounding with hints of what may happen (Wilkes County)

Luger, Harriett. CHASING TROUBLE. Viking, 1976. 119 p. \$6.95. Grades 7-9

Freshman Vickie Lott, rebellious in thought and action, is sent to live on her uncle's ranch because her divorced mother distrusts Vickie's suburban Los Angeles school friends; Vickie dislikes everything about her new home and school until a gopher in a strawberry patch where she's working to get money for a bus ticket back to the city changes her attitude; when a science teacher befriends her as her interest in mammals develops, Vickie gradually begins to find herself; occasional swear words (Wilkes County)

McCaffrey, Anne. DRAGONSINGER. Atheneum, 1977. 264 p. \$7.95. Grades 5-8

In sequel to DRAGONSONG, Menolly, brilliant young musician, joins Harper Hall, a conservatory where the best musicians in the world of Pern are trained; Menolly brings with her years of prejudice and mistreatment because of her sex; she also brings her nine pet fire lizards--small, dragon-like flying creatures who react to emotions and sing beautifully; Menolly overcomes many problems at the hall and becomes first woman to attain well-respected rank of journeyman; beautifully convincing combination of fantasy and statement on women's rights; should become a classic (Caldwell County)

McDaniel, Suellen R. SERPENT TREASURE. Blair, 1978. 129 p. \$7.95. Grades 4-9

Young Chris and his father are among those scouring a Texas canyon for gold secreted there 450 years earlier by Aztecs fleeing the conquering Spanish; although gold is discovered in underground cavern guarded by rattlesnakes, other, more ruthless, treasure seekers cause its burial again; exciting plot and satisfactory format (Columbus County)

MacKellar, William. THE WITCH OF GLEN GOWRIE. Dodd, 1978. 144 p. \$5.95. Grades 5-9

Young Gavin Fraser befriends elderly Meg Leckie, reputed to be a witch by local Scots villagers, and shares her love for the animals and wildlife who find refuge in her gentle lands; when Meg disappears mysteriously during a fire, greedy Mr. Cuthbertson searches her ruined cottage in vain for her supposed treasure; it's Gavin, though, who discovers the real treasure, enabling him to become a veterinarian's assistant; easy reading, large print (Northampton County)

McKillip, Patricia A. HEIR OF SEA AND FIRE. Atheneum, 1977. 204 p. \$7.95. (Also available from Ballantine for \$1.95 paper.) Grades 10-12

Sequel to THE RIDDLE-MASTER OF HED and second title of compelling trilogy; when Morgon, Prince of Hed, disappears, his promised bride Raederle undertakes quest to find him, a journey which reveals to her the great powers she had not known she possessed; fresh, skillful style; vivid, original metaphors; pervaded by enticing eeriness; based on ancient Gaelic and Germanic traditions and reminiscent of LORD OF THE RINGS (UNC-CH)

Malocsay, Zoltan. GALLOPING WIND. Putnam, 1977. 157 p. \$6.95. Grades 5-9

Seventeen-year-old Rube had glimpsed the wild black Mustang and had heard about the "Wind-That-Gallops" from Cheval Indians; then, in rugged Northwest mountains called Winding Stairs, Rube catches the spirited horse; adventurous reading in cowboy style that is occasionally trite but overall genuinely appealing; good follow-up to London's CALL OF THE WILD (Charlotte-Mecklenburg)

Manley, Seon, and Gogo Lewis, sels. CHRISTMAS GHOSTS. Doubleday, 1978. 227 p. \$7.95. Grades 7-12

Attractive holiday collection of British ghost stories taking place near Christmas Day, ranging from Dickens' "Christmas Carol" to Dorothy Sayers' "The Necklace of Pearls"; short, illuminating comments preceding each story explain pre-Christian lore influencing some stories; diverse plots with a variety of devices--white-robed phantoms, an animal-like Mr. Hyde, a spiritualist, stolen pearls secreted among mistletoe berries; good format and print; biographical sketches of each author (Columbus County)

Manley, Seon, and Gogo Lewis, sels. GHOSTLY GENTLEWOMEN: TWO CENTURIES OF SPECTRAL STORIES BY THE GENTLE SEX. Lothrop, 1977. 237 p. \$6.71. Grades 7-12

Twelve short stories by notable women writers spanning almost two centuries--Catherine Crower, Sarah Orne Jewett, Mary Webb, Virginia Woolf, Rosemary Timperley, Mary Elizabeth Counselman--who write of haunting spirits, lovers beyond the grave, a lustful lord who forces his ghostly attentions on a young woman, a dead mother caring for her surviving child; convincing and compelling; each author's philosophy precedes her story; biographical sketches in appendix

Mann, Peggy. THERE ARE TWO KINDS OF TERRIBLE. Doubleday, 1977. 133 p. \$5.95. Grades 4-6

When Robbie Farley loses his mother to cancer, he faces an anguished, lonely adjustment intensified by his father's grief stricken retreat into himself; touching first-person fiction; bibliotherapy for middle graders coping with personal loss

Mazer, Norma Fox. DEAR BILL, REMEMBER ME? AND OTHER STORIES. Delacorte, 1976. 195 p. \$6.95. (Also available from Dell for \$1.50 paper.) Grades 10-12

Described on September 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Michener, James A. CHESAPEAKE. Random, 1978. 865 p. \$12.95. Grades 11-12

Historical fiction tracing life along little-known portion of one of America's great rivers where Virginia's Eastern Shore forms the small embayment of the "Choptank"; historically accurate portrayals of people and events that shaped the region through almost two centuries, from early Indian settlements to present; fictional Steed, Turlock, Paxmore, Cater, and Caveney families represent good and bad facets of regional character; a rural view of American people and attitudes, not dates and events, in a great fictional saga enabling us to see ourselves as a nation; several rather strong passages might be objectionable to some--overall quality should compensate for those; for high school collections where book lovers and history lovers demand mature, thoughtful historical fiction

Miller, Ruth White. THE CITY ROSE. McGraw, 1977. 171 p. \$6.33. Grades 4-6

Eleven-year-old Dee Briston, black girl orphaned by Detroit fire, must adjust to farm life with childless relatives in North Carolina; although Aunt Lulu welcomes Dee lovingly, Uncle George is distant; settling into new school, adapting to farm life, discovering the illegal distillery, and unraveling the mystery of Uncle George's aloofness lead Dee to improved self-concept and permanent home with her aunt and uncle; easy reading, much dialogue, short paragraphs; lightly humorous; sympathetic characters; points out some problems plaguing minority groups; by a North Carolina author (Wilkes County)

Moeri, Louise. A HORSE FOR X.Y.Z. Dutton, 1977. 99 p. \$6.95. Grades 4-6

More than anything else, Solveig wants to ride Snake Dancer, a new horse at camp, and her quick decision to do just that launches Solveig and Snake Dancer into prolonged adventure; good survival story; short and easy; few "outsiders" ever enter plot, with Solveig telling entire tale and Snake Dancer providing only other central character; excellent pen-and-ink drawings

Monjo, F. N. THE HOUSE ON STINK ALLEY: A STORY ABOUT THE PILGRIMS IN HOLLAND. Holt, 1977. 64 p. \$6.95. Grades 3-6

Fictionalized account of Pilgrims' brief stay in Leyden, Holland, while escaping English persecution and their subsequent departure for America in 1620, as told by 10-year-old Love Brewster, son of printer William Brewster; excellent story line, though occasionally heavy on historical details and facts; woodcut-type illustrations in black on blue (Alexander County)

Monjo, F. N. A NAMESAKE FOR NATHAN: BEING AN ACCOUNT OF CAPTAIN NATHAN HALE BY HIS TWELVE-YEAR-OLD SISTER, JOANNA. Coward, 1977. 127 p. \$6.95. Grades 4-7

Fictionalized biography of Nathan Hale narrated by his 11-year-old sister, Joanna, during last year of hero's life; rural Connecticut homelife is faithfully reflected as the Hale family works, prays, sacrifices, and continues to live amidst surrounding conflict; families everywhere wait during war as news travels slowly, second-hand, inaccurately; the impact of dreaded information gradually seeping to the family about Nathan's fate is dramatically appealing; a valuable postscript explains historical sources carefully researched (Caldwell County)

Moore, S. E. SECRET ISLAND. Four Winds, 1977. 213 p. \$7.95. Grades 5-8

Mystery, adventure, history, codes, a secret island, and an assignment to look out for Rebel prisoners and sympathizers along the St. Lawrence River are ingredients in action-packed story set in June 1865 at close of Civil War; young John Allen narrates this local color-adventure about a little-known aspect of the war as he aids in dangerous effort to ferret out Southern sympathizers; not a book to be "taken to" by diehard Rebels, ya'll, but suspenseful and informative otherwise

Morressy, John. THE DROUGHT ON ZIAX II. Walker & Co., 1978. 77 p. \$5.85. Grades 3-6

Toren, earth boy and member of human colony sharing planet Ziax II with its original inhabitants, helps prevent planetary disaster from a massive drought caused when human beings begin slaughtering a breed of fierce but necessary native beasts; Toren and other humans realize the error of their ways and move to protect the balance of nature on Ziax II through peaceful cooperation; satisfactory format for older reluctant readers

Myers, Walter Dean. IT AIN'T ALL FOR NOTHIN'. Viking, 1978. 217 p. \$8.95. Grades 10-12

Narrated by Tippy, 12-year-old black boy forced to leave the love and security of his grandmother's home to live with his father, a resentful, violent man; hard but realistic portrayal of a young boy growing up in New York ghetto; street language, sexual activity (not explicit), and profanity make preview a necessity; yet Tippy's touching innocence and depth redeem the book and him--it never becomes a titillating exploitation or a diatribe against social injustices, but remains a fine narrative with excellent characterizations stirring our respect, love, sympathy; useful for presenting minority problems; by author of FAST SAM, COOL CLYDE, AND STUFF

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. WITCH WATER. Atheneum, 1977. 179 p. \$7.95. Grades 4-6

When gold-toothed old Mrs. Tuggle calls crows by name that light on her bony, outstretched arms, Lynn and her friend Mouse fear she's a witch; struggling against Mrs. Tuggle's powers, they decide finally that their friendship can withstand the pull of witchcraft--whether Mrs. Tuggle is really a witch remains unresolved; good characterization; high level of suspense; sequel to WITCH'S SISTER; scary drawings by Gail Owens

Newton, Suzanne. REUBELLA AND THE OLD FOCUS HOME. Described on Advisory List for the Study of North Carolina

Newton, Suzanne. WHAT ARE YOU UP TO, WILLIAM THOMAS? Described on Advisory List for the Study of North Carolina

Niven, Larry. RINGWORLD. Holt, 1977. 342 p. \$8.95. Grade 12

Science fiction winner of Hugo and Nebula Awards, this title first appeared in paperback in 1970; fast-moving, imaginative, with well-drawn characters; plot features 200-year-old space adventurer Louis Wu, a lucky youngster named Teela Brown, a two-headed coward called Nessus, and a strange planet shaped like a ring which is explored by the group; a feeling, creative SF effort for sophisticated readers

Norton, Andre, and Dorothy Madlee. STAR KA'ATS AND THE PLANT PEOPLE. Walker & Co., 1979. 122 p. \$6.85. Grades 4-6

Earthlings, Elly Mae and Jim, join the super feline Ka'ats to search for metal to repair spaceships; their efforts lead them to an island and a large bubble under which live Plant People who are being attacked by crab-like creatures; a computerized control system finally saves the day; typical Andre Norton (Wilkes County)

O'Dell, Scott. CARLOTA. Houghton, 1977. 153 p. \$7.95. Grades 5-9

Fast-moving story of unusual Mexican girl whose aristocratic father challenges intrusion of "gringos" into California and his daughter to replace his beloved dead son; set against backdrop of waning days of Mexican War, story climaxes with Carlota's participation in Battle of San Pasquale in which she finally defies her father, accepts herself, realizes that courage is more than muskets and lances aimed at gringos; rich local color; good characterizations

Orgel, Doris. THE DEVIL IN VIENNA. Dial, 1978. 246 p. \$7.95. Grades 7-9

Inge, 13-year-old Jewish girl, recounts last fearful months in Vienna of 1938 during which Austria falls to Germans and Jewish persecution intensifies--her father and grandfather must clean streets with toothbrushes; with help of Lieselotte, Inge's best friend and daughter of Storm Trooper, Inge's

THE DEVIL IN VIENNA. (Cont'd)

family escapes to Yugoslavia; good example of real friendship despite being a reminder of Nazi cruelties; foreign words and names; for good readers, especially those who enjoyed the author's A CERTAIN MAGIC (Wilkes County)

Parish, Peggy. HERMIT DAN. Macmillan, 1977. 151 p. \$6.95. Grades 3-5

Liza, Bill, and Jed are off on yet another adventure, this time solving the mystery of Hermit Dan of Pirate Island; pencil drawings enhance easy, intriguing story for elementary boys and girls

Paterson, Katherine. BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA. Crowell, 1977. 128 p. \$7.95. Grades 5-10

Terabithia is the imaginary haven created by city-bred Leslie when she moves to the country, makes friends with Jess, and introduces him to a new way of looking at things; Leslie's accidental death moves Jess to start sharing his new outlook with his sister; several themes in vogue--death, girls and boys as friends, urban/rural conflicts, girls better than boys at sports, and misunderstanding parents--are worked into first-rate plot with excellent characterization; 1978 Newbery Award Book (ASU)

Paterson, Katherine. THE GREAT GILLY HOPKINS. Crowell, 1978. 148 p. \$6.79. Grades 5-8

A remarkably drawn cast of characters provides an answer to "What will happen to the children of the 'flower children'?"--11-year-old Gilly Hopkins, passed around foster child, is an intelligent, aggressive liar and thief; Gilly's attempts, soon regretted, to renew contact with her mother finally succeed when her grandmother appears to take her from Mrs. Trotter, the obese, strong, genuinely loving foster mother whom she shares with seven-year-old, withdrawn William Ernest and a blind, ancient black, Mr. Randolph; some will believe this 1979 Newbery Honor Book better reading than author's Newbery Award-winning BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA; occasional swear words are appropriate to characterizations (UNC-CH)

Pearson, M. J. RIDE THE RED-EYED WIND. Dillon, 1978. 175 p. \$8.95. Grades 6-9

Recounts the Great Sioux uprising of 1862 in Minnesota when Blue Jay, a young Sioux, is torn between loyalty to his people and to the white man; tells how government reneged on promises to Indians, an Episcopal bishop gained Indians' confidence, and a touching relationship flowered between Blue Jay and Tara; simply written, easy to follow; watercolor illustrations exude warmth

Peck, Robert Newton. BASKET CASE. Doubleday, 1979. 94 p. \$5.95. Grades 7-9

An outlandish basketball game between Graffiti Prep School and Pratt Falls High School stars seven-foot Courtney Dribble and leggy cheerleader, Bathsheba Biltmore, among other equally improbable characters; short chapters, fast tempo, much dialogue (Yadkin County)

Peck, Richard. ARE YOU IN THE HOUSE ALONE? Viking, 1976. 156 p. \$6.95. (Also available from Dell for \$1.25 paper. guide \$.50.) Grades 10-12

Gail Osbourne finds obscene notes in her locker, receives anonymous phone calls, is stalked by her unseen persecutor, and finally is terrifyingly raped by one of the town's most influential sons; reactions of her family, friends, lawyer,

ARE YOU IN THE HOUSE ALONE? (Cont'd)

and police convince Gail that the law is indeed designed to protect the rapist and not the victim--that a female is guilty until proved innocent; an excellent fictional presentation of a provocative, controversial topic; the rape itself is not described; no violence or vulgarity in words or actions; Gail's medical examination following rape is informative; nothing inflammatory about this thoroughly well-handled narrative except the topic itself; teachers' guide provides excellent, chapter-by-chapter aid with paperback edition

Perl, Lila. DUMB LIKE ME, OLIVIA POTTS. Seabury, 1976. 181 p. \$6.95. Also available from Dell for \$1.25 paper. Grades 4-9

Described on September 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Peyton, K. M. PROVE YOURSELF A HERO. Collins+World, 1977. 182 p. \$6.95. Grades 10-12

Gripping story set in today's England about a wealthy 16-year-old youth kidnapped and released for half a million pounds; story's drama centers less on the terrifying three days Jonathan Meredith suffers in his boat prison than on the personal aftermath of kidnapping experience when Jonathan agonizes guiltily over his conduct during the three-day ordeal; climactic ending rivals the best suspense thrillers; first-rate novel

Pfeffer, Susan Beth. KID POWER. Watts, 1977. 121 p. \$5.90. Grades 4-6

When financial woes catch up with the Golden family, 11-year-old Janie starts an odd-job service to earn money and thus is born the Kid Power Agency; despite some mishaps, business expands and corporate concerns soon occupy spunky Janie, who hires other kids to meet demands for dog walkers, plant minding, etc.; lively, humorous characterizations; breezy, upbeat narrative; may mislead children on the ease with which success arrives, but will encourage some to try similar projects (ASU)

Phipson, Joan. FLY INTO DANGER. Atheneum, 1977. 152 p. \$6.95. Grades 5-10

Thirteen-year-old Margaret, flying from Australia, suspects a German couple seated beside her on the plane of smuggling drugged parrots of a rare, exotic breed in their luggage and coat linings; aware of Margaret's suspicion, the two are determined that she shall not tell; unlikely but suspense-filled mystery; excellent outside reading for classes concerned with either Australia or ecological problems (Caldwell County)

Pinkwater, D. Manus. THE HOBOKEN CHICKEN EMERGENCY. Prentice, 1977. 83 p. \$5.95. Grades 3-6

Hoboken simply wasn't prepared to cope with a 266-pound, potato-eating, home-sick chicken named Henrietta who started out to be the Bobowicz's Thanksgiving dinner but wound up being Arthur Bobowicz's pet; well-developed story line and rather frantic pace; contemporary humor; a thoroughly nutty adventure; black-and-white block print illustrations (Caldwell County)

Pinkwater, D. Manus. LIZARD MUSIC. Dodd, 1976. 157 p. \$4.95. Also available from Dell for \$1.25 paper. Grades 4-9

Described on September 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Plaidy, Jean. THE QUEEN'S HUSBAND. Putnam, 1978. 382 p. \$8.95. Grades 10-12

Fictionalized biography of Prince Albert, adored husband of Queen Victoria, which hews closely to line of known facts about the power behind the Victorian throne; Albert's remoteness, intelligence, stringent moral standards, determination to share the rule with his plump, impestuous little wife emerge convincingly, as does Victoria's passionate, headstrong personality; readers will sympathize with their eldest son and heir to throne

Pomerantz, Charlotte. THE DOWNTOWN FAIRY GODMOTHER. Addison, 1978. 43 p. \$5.95. Grades 3-6

Olivia's fairy godmother is not the usual storybook variety, but plump, middle-aged, and dressed all in blue except for her pink curlers; only a "Grade C" fairy godmother, she's unable to grant all wishes, but those she can fulfill bring much happiness; humorous text and black-and-white illustrations will appeal especially to reluctant readers

Raskin, Ellen. THE WESTING GAME. Dutton, 1978. 192 p. \$7.95. Grades 5-8

1979 Newbery Award winner features 13-year-old, pig-tailed, shin-kicking Tabitha-Ruth ("Turtle") Wexler in mystery-puzzle story in which 16 people, all possible heirs to estate of multi-millionaire, Samuel Westing, assemble in apartment complex and pair off with \$10,000 and clues to a puzzle leading to yet more money; Raskin keeps readers intrigued with the "Westing game" through clever characterizations and hints that one heir may be a murderer; Turtle figures out the puzzle in unique ending; highly readable (UNC-CH)

Reig, June. DIARY OF THE BOY KING TUT-ANKH-AMEN. Scribners, 1978. 147 p. \$7.95. Grades 4-7

Imaginary diary recounting events in life of young King "Tut" of Egypt; pictures Tutankhamen's life in three periods: harvest, inundation, and sowing; gives insight into educational, recreational, and political aspects of the pharaohs' Egypt; excellent glossary; pen-and-ink illustrations; current popularity of traveling exhibit of artifacts unearthed from Tutankhamen's tomb increases appeal

Reit, Seymour. IRONCLAD! A TRUE STORY OF THE CIVIL WAR. Dodd, 1977. 92 p. \$4.95. Grades 5-8

Historical fiction recounting famous battle between MONITOR and MERRIMAC, told by young Peter Williams, the helmsman, who had joined the MONITOR's crew hoping to "see a little action"; insight into personalities, plans, and actions of both Confederate and Union sides; fast pace will appeal to middle graders; informative black-and-white illustrations (Caldwell County)

Renick, Marion. THE FAMOUS FORWARD PASS PAIR. Scribners, 1977. 56 p. \$6.95. Grades 2-4

Beeky and Joe, daydreaming about football stardom instead of learning to play, practice a few tactics suggested by Jan, despite their reluctance to take tips from a girl; when all three play in a game, both boys discover the real thing is worth the effort--Jan then goes back to playing tennis (this seems a bit unfair); large print; nice line drawings; for early and slow readers

Renner, Beverly Hollett. THE HIDEAWAY SUMMER. Harper, 1978. 134 p. \$6.79. Grades 4-6

Twelve-year-old Addie and nine-year-old Clay Carver, brother and sister, quite on impulse spend summer at their late grandmother's cabin in the woods instead

THE HIDEAWAY SUMMER. (Cont'd)

of going to summer camp; through clever means not shared in the story, they get enough supplies to survive and keep their hideaway a secret from their father; slightly reminiscent of Konigsburg's FROM THE MIXED-UP FILES OF MRS. BASIL E. FRANKWEILER, this describes adoption of two baby raccoons, feeling of being a team, and self-sufficiency in times of trouble; pencil drawings complement nice, contemporary adventure story (UNC-CH)

Rice, Eve. THE REMARKABLE RETURN OF WINSTON POTTER CRISPLY. Greenwillow, 1978. 212 p. \$6.95. Grades 5-8

Light-hearted mystery in which Rebecca and Maxwell spot older brother, Potter, in New York hobby shop when he is supposed to be studying at Harvard--at least his letters requesting money bear Cambridge postmark; bizarre clues--diagrams, a black-caped stranger, fragments of messages--sustain suspense, although readers will be disappointed in Potter's reasons for secret life (conclusion stretches credibility to the limits); humorous, interesting tale (UNC-CH)

Robinson, Jean. THE MYSTERY OF LINCOLN DETWEILER AND THE DOG WHO BARKED SPANISH. Follett, 1977. 128 p. \$5.97. Grades 4-7

Nonconformist "Linc," living with his aunt and uncle after his parents' death, receives a twelfth birthday present--a dog smuggled from Mexico and acquired by his uncle from a casual acquaintance; odd things begin to happen and are made more difficult by a rowdy mutt who understands no English; family, friends, and dog grow closer as mystery is solved; rather prosaic ending detracts from otherwise upbeat story (Alexander County)

Rockwood, Joyce. GROUNDHOG'S HORSE. Holt, 1978. 115 p. \$6.95. Grades 4-6

Story of spunky 11-year-old Cherokee Indian boy, Groundhog, and his horse, Midnight, set in Southern Appalachian Mountains during pre-Revolutionary War when Creek and Cherokee Indians skirmished constantly; after Creeks steal Midnight and Cherokees decide against raising a war party to rescue him, Groundhog sets out single-handedly to get his horse back; Midnight, however, is not all Groundhog brings back; humorous, exciting adventure; special appeal for boys; pen-and-ink drawings

Rounds, Glen. MR. YOWDER AND THE STEAMBOAT. Holiday, 1977. unp. \$5.95. Grades 2-5

Mr. Xenon Zebulon Yowder, spending the winter in New York City, decides to go fishing, rents a rowboat, dodges river traffic, gets lost on the ocean; tall tale doings that ensue will delight young readers; comic line drawings by Glen Rounds

Sachs, Marilyn. A SECRET FRIEND. Doubleday, 1978. 111 p. \$6.95. Grades 4-6

Ten-year-old Jessica is losing her best friend, self-centered Wendy--even their "poison" lockets, worn as friendship symbols, are in jeopardy; when parents fail to patch the break, Jessica takes matters into her own hands through a series of A.S.F. ("A Secret Friend") notes written by herself to herself which she makes an elaborate and mysterious display of for Wendy's benefit; all ends well as Jessica acquires a new friend and more mature attitude; good family relationships and a subject with which most girls can identify (Wilkes County)

St. George, Judith. THE SHAD ARE RUNNING. Putnam, 1977. 80 p. \$5.29.
Grades 3-6

Eleven-year-old Corny, obsessed by a dread of water since a near drowning, is unable to face the coming shad season so important to his 19th-century Hudson River fishing village and plans to run away from his unsympathetic family; his plans change dramatically when two steamboats collide on the river and, in helping others, Corny helps himself out of his dilemma; unexciting title may cause students to pass up excellent story; good illustrations by Richard Cuffari extend text (Alexander County)

St. George, Judith. SHADOW OF THE SHAMAN. Putnam, 1977. 156 p. \$7.95.
Grades 5-9

Fifteen-year-old Jay, left to his own devices at Geyser Lodge in Oregon after an accident hospitalizes his father, is unprepared for mysterious occurrences he encounters--unaccountable accidents, midnight meetings, sinister Indian charms, feathered figures chanting under a full moon; with Winnie, a new friend, Jay resolves the mystery and the real villain is revealed; combines details of lonely Oregon desert country with satisfying mystery

Sallis, Susan. AN OPEN MIND. Harper, 1978. 139 p. \$6.79. Grades 7-12

Fifteen-year-old David, longing for security and attention in his divorced-family world, reaches a turning point when his father takes him to a performance by paraplegics and spastics and David befriends the spastic son of his father's new female friend; tender novel for troubled teen-agers struggling with similar problems (Wilkes County)

Schulz, Charles M. SANDLOT PEANUTS. Holt, 1977. unp. \$9.95. Grades 4-12

Compiled from Sunday and daily newspapers, this book brings together in oversized format "Peanuts" comic strips on baseball themes, some in color and some in black and white; introduction by Joe Garagiola; for fun reading and for all ages who enjoy the "funnies" and Peanuts; a special-interest purchase for well-stocked collections

Shreve, Susan. THE NIGHTMARES OF GERANIUM STREET. Knopf, 1977. 127 p.
\$6.99. Grades 5-8

Members of a young North Philadelphia neighborhood gang, the "Nightmares," get themselves into more than they bargained for when they spy on their new and mysterious neighbor, Tess; ranging in age from nine to 13, the Nightmares experience a firsthand look at the drug scene via a ring in their own neighborhood; lots of action; a spunky cast of kids; good introduction to the drug problem for pre-teens

Silverberg, Robert, ed. EARTH IS THE STRANGEST PLANET: TEN STORIES OF SCIENCE FICTION. Nelson, 1977. 189 p. \$6.95. Grades 7-12

Delightful collection of fantasies to make the imagination run wild in stories by such noted authors as H. G. Wells; filled with pseudo-logic to the point that separating the science from the fiction becomes a fascinating experience

Silverberg, Robert, ed. LOST WORLDS, UNKNOWN HORIZONS: NINE STORIES OF SCIENCE FICTION. Nelson, 1978. 172 p. \$6.95. Grades 7-12

Anthology of fantasy and science fiction exemplifying several genres--time displacement, multi-dimension, lost cities, and lost civilizations placed at various points in our time continuum; impressive contributors include Poe, Wells, Finney, Lovecraft

Simak, Clifford D. SKIRMISH: THE GREAT SHORT FICTION OF CLIFFORD D. SIMAK. Putnam, 1977. 320 p. \$8.95. Grades 10-12

Thoughtful anthology of science fiction by well-established SF writer who avoids space wars, alien invasions, planetary dukedoms, other such celestial sword-rattling, to concentrate on believable human beings and believable aliens in stories centered on moral or intellectual themes in futuristic settings; readable, well plotted, especially well-drawn characterizations; 10 stories

Sisson, Rosemary Anne. WILL IN LOVE. Morrow, 1977. 288 p. \$6.71. Grades 7-12

Well-written, entertaining romantic novel about William Shakespeare and Anne Hathaway in a noteworthy fictional contribution to the better understanding of Shakespeare, his early life, family, town, and times; far-fetched undoubtedly in many respects--characterizations rely heavily on the most meager information--but still gives as plausible an imaginative biography as one could want; includes map of Stratford-on-Avon (1968) and family tree of Shakespeare family

Slote, Alfred. THE HOTSHOT. Dell, 1977. 87 p. \$1.25 paper. Grades 4-7

High-interest/low-vocabulary title in appealing, photo-full paperback about Paddy O'Neill who wants above all things to qualify for "all-city" hockey team; glossary of hockey terms; short sentences, easy vocabulary, lots of action

Smaridge, Nora. THE SECRET OF THE BROWNSTONE HOUSE. Dodd, 1977. 128 p. \$5.25. Grades 4-6

A monkey, an old brownstone where two people have been murdered, and two young runaways lend excitement and mystery to Robin's visit to New York City; easy to read; fast paced; interesting characters; enough intrigue to appeal to budding mystery buffs

Smith, Alison. RESERVED FOR MARK ANTHONY CROWDER. Dutton, 1978. 123 p. \$6.95. Grades 4-9

Tall, clumsy, nearsighted Mark Anthony Crowder, sixth grader unable to please his athletic coach father, wants only to study, collect Indian artifacts, and have a place of his own; his refusal to attend athletic camp and a bad report card exile him to a vegetable patch for the summer, where Uncle Edward becomes a confidant; much of the book is Mark's garden journal; interesting, lightly humorous, realistic (Wilkes County)

Sobel, Donald J. ENCYCLOPEDIA BROWN AND THE CASE OF THE MIDNIGHT VISITOR. Nelson, 1977. 96 p. \$4.95. Grades 3-5

The thirteenth Encyclopedia Brown book, inviting readers to match wits with the brilliant boy detective; for addicts of the 10-year-old supersleuth

Solomon, Barbara H., ed. *THE AWAKENING AND SELECTED STORIES OF KATE CHOPIN*. NAL, 1976. 283 p. \$1.50 paper. Grades 10-12

Chopin's stories depict problems of a woman's place in marriage and society, both self-assertive and conventional women; stories show influence of Louisiana's Acadians and Creoles, restricting her reputation to local colorist until her rediscovery by feminists; although written in 1890's, "The Awakening," widely banned after its publication, and 17 other stories are refreshingly relevant to today's woman; bibliography included; introduction with biography and literary criticism

Stewart, A. C. *SILAS AND CON*. Atheneum, 1977. 120 p. \$5.95. Grades 6-9

With only a stray mutt for company, 10-year-old Silas, an abused, abandoned child, sets out aimlessly across northwest Scotland, traveling in often wild terrain and encountering hardships, joys, and, finally, warm human response; touching story of a frightened boy who learns to trust his fellow man; atmospheric as well as moving

Stevenson, Robert Louis. *TREASURE ISLAND*. Described on Languages Advisory List

Sutcliffe, Rosemary. *SUN HORSE, MOON HORSE*. Dutton, 1978. 112 p. \$7.95. Grades 5-10

Skillful tale weaving England's famous cliff drawing, the White Horse of Uffington, into stirring story of Lubrin, son of Iceni chieftain during Britain's Iron Age, whose leadership, artistry, and personal sacrifice at age 17 unite to win freedom for his people; vivid, reliable picture of tribe who lived on England's chalk downs c. 100 B.C.; no disappointment to fans of Sutcliffe (UNC-CH)

Swarthout, Glendon. *THE MELODEON*. Doubleday, 1977. 129 p. \$6.95. Grades 9-12

Nostalgic Christmas story featuring love, ghosts, and gifts--the gift of a melodian to a country church; 1930's setting and lovable characters in charming evocation of the values of family life, community living, and rural neighborliness; many will recall recent television adaptation starring Jason Robards; pen-and-ink drawings by Richard Cuffari; for Christmas collections

Taylor, Mildred D. *ROLL OF THUNDER, HEAR MY CRY*. Dial, 1976. 276 p. \$7.95. (Also available from Bantam for \$1.75 paper.) Grades 7-12

Described on September 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Taylor, Sydney. *ELLA OF ALL OF A KIND FAMILY*. Dutton, 1978. 133 p. \$7.95. Grades 4-7

Fifth novel in series set in post-World War I New York and featuring a warm, harmonious family; centers on Ella, oldest daughter, who must decide about a singing career over protests of Jules, her childhood sweetheart; displeased with Ella's stint in vaudeville, Jules discourages a career, but having devoted years to her singing, Ella is reluctant to abandon her goal; all episodes, serious or light, reflect a unique family bond of pride, love, and loyalty both touching and amusing with many delightful vignettes of Jewish family life

Teal, Mildred. BIRD OF PASSAGE. Little, 1977. 109 p. \$6.95. Grades 7-9

The great blue heron of New England and Georgia marshes becomes a talisman for families in two short stories during its migration from North to South; the majestic heron first touches life of Juanillo, an Indian boy fleeing white raiders who have decimated his village; again, the great bird inspires Emily, lonely young girl struggling to keep body and soul together after her mother's death; plight of earth's poor and neglected furnish focal point for Teal's excellent nature descriptions; birds extinct or rare described; disturbing, sad book (Wilkes County)

Terris, Susan. THE CHICKEN POX PAPERS. Watts, 1976. 124 p. \$5.90.
(Also available from Dell for \$1.25 paper.) Grades 4-6

Described on September 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Traylor, Sarah M. THE RED WIND. Abingdon, 1977. 176 p. \$5.95. Grades 7-12

Exceptionally well-written fictional account of slave trade, commercial trade, and war and strife with Cherokee Indians during pre-Revolutionary War period; young Angus, teen-aged emigrant, is horrified by treatment of slaves chained on INDIAN QUEEN en route to slave market in Charles Town, South Carolina--he witnesses live blacks thrown overboard into sea; reporting the cruelty leads to threats on Angus's life and launches the boy quite indirectly into adventures with English colony at Fort Loudon and with Cherokees; excellent historical fiction and a fine portrait of a believable young hero

Valencak, Hannelore. Translated from the German by Patricia Crampton.
WHEN HALF-GODS GO. Morrow, 1976. 192 p. \$5.94. Grades 9-12

Modern-day Germans, Barbara and Andreas, travel to Greece where Andreas, a blond male chauvinist, humiliates Barbara once too often and mysterious, kindly "Alexander" befriends her; guiding Barbara over Greek countryside, pointing out sites and discussing history with awesome knowledge, Alexander soon appears more than mere mortal; translated from German in somber, strangely moving, lyrical prose; much information on ancient Greece and its gods makes an excellent supplement to senior high mythology units; students will enjoy the insight Barbara gradually gains into herself and Andreas from her acquaintance with Alexander--or is it Hermes?...

Verne, Jules. Adapted by Jay Williams. VOYAGE TO THE MOON. Harmony, 1976.
unp. \$4.95. Grades 4-8

Superbly illustrated adaptation of a science fiction classic-turned-fantasy satirizing America's passion for firearms of all types and relating the entire moon expedition in high humor; bold, fanciful, intricate drawings, dominating each page with rich color, are worth book's price; one conflict: picture book format will appeal to an age group who will miss most of the subtle sarcasm

Vestly, Anne-Cath. Translated from the Norwegian by Eileen Amos. AURORA AND SOCRATES. Crowell, 1977. 144 p. \$6.95. Grades 4-6

Sequel to HELLO, AURORA offers child's humorous insights into family life with a lawyer mother and doctoral student father; Aurora tries to help by running away with her brother, Socrates, to be out of everyone's way; each chapter relates different event and can be easily read aloud, one at a time, to younger children; jealousy, love, concern for family members, friendship, other family themes are realistically, appealingly handled; black-and-white illustrations complement simple text (UNC-CH)

Wahl, Jan. YOUTH'S MAGIC HORN: SEVEN STORIES. Nelson, 1978. 127 p.
\$6.95. Grades 7-12

Excellent collection of seven short stories on themes of growing up and the "quirky" adult world from youthful viewpoint, all set in American small town of 1920's; eerie, somewhat mystical, somewhat macabre style in wonderful mixture of psychological character studies and weirdly gothic tales--Isak Dinesen for the young; poignant and ironic, supernatural and realistic (UNC-CH)

Waldron, Ann. SCAREDY CAT. Dutton, 1978. 107 p. \$7.50. Grades 5-8

Tina invades Sarajane's safe, secure world, her belligerent attitude and mysterious background intimidating Sarajane, who unwillingly accepts the forced companionship; Sarajane's bewilderment increases when she overhears "tough" Tina whimpering in her sleep and talking to her locket; with Sarajane's help, Tina gradually loses chip on her shoulder, her mysterious origins are clarified, and when a custody struggle develops, Tina proves her new-found maturity; sensitive, well-written juvenile novel

Walker, Frank. JACK. Coward, 1976. 183 p. \$7.95. Grades 9-12

Story of a Belgian sheepdog trained to be a champion in more ways than one; weaned early from his mother, Jack is trapped in a rabbit snare, almost eaten by foxes, endures an obedience training program, encounters an otter, receives honors at an obedience competition, serves as a guard, brings high fees from dog breeders--among other feats--and dies in a hunting accident; excellent dog story (Wilkes County)

Walt Disney Productions. WALT DISNEY'S ADVENTURES OF MICKEY MOUSE.
McKay, 1978. unp. \$7.95. Grades 3-6

Fiftieth Birthday Edition commemorating the fabulous mouse; divided into three sections, Book 1 is about a battle with Claws the cat, Book 2 (in verse) has Minnie and Mickey outwitting pirates, and Book 3 contains several short stories starring Tanglefoot, Mickey's horse; full-color illustrations

Warner, Gertrude Chandler. BENNY UNCOVERS A MYSTERY. Whitman, 1976. 128 p.
\$3.19. Grades 4-8

Another appealing Alden Family Mysteries title for middle grade children with little reading ability or interest; Benny, delivery and stock boy at Furman's Department Store, puts his teen-age detective mind to work solving some mysterious happenings in the store; high-interest/low-vocabulary selection for secondary readers (Wilkes County)

Wayne, Jenifer. SPROUT AND THE DOGSITTER. McGraw, 1977. 89 p. \$5.72.
Grades 3-5

The misadventures of lively seven-year-old Sprout of previous stories continue apace in this whacky concoction featuring the wayward charmer's escapades on Christmas Eve when he strays from a party of carol singers; pen-and-ink drawings

Wayne, Jenifer. SPROUT AND THE MAGICIAN. McGraw, 1977. 88 p. \$5.72.
Grades 3-5

Eight-year-old Sprout turns detective when his sister's white rabbit is missing just after a magic show in their home; in the process Sprout does a little well-intentioned thievery and meets some interesting friends; delightful nonsense

Wersba, Barbara. TUNES FOR A SMALL HARMONICA. Harper, 1976. 178 p. \$6.49. (Also available from Dell for \$1.25 paper.) Grade 12

Described on September 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Westall, Robert. THE WATCH HOUSE. Greenwillow, 1978. 218 p. \$6.43. Grades 7-9

Anne, English teen-ager sent to coastal Garmouth to stay with her old nanny, soon discovers that Watch House holds more than just the Rescue Brigade's mementos; convincing portraits of local residents, clear, vivid descriptions of physical surroundings, and intriguing mystery story make a first-rate novel (UNC-CH)

Wilkinson, Brenda. LUDELL AND WILLIE. Harper, 1977. 181 p. \$5.79. Grades 7-9

Warm, frank look at 1950's black culture in South in sequel to LUDELL, which continues the story of spunky black girl as a high school senior now in love with Willie next door; despite her grandmother's--"Mama's"--old-fashioned ideas about dancing and teen-age frolicking, Ludell and Willie carry on their romance until "Mama" dies and Dessa, her actual mother, takes Ludell back to New York with her; cheerful and upbeat; written in black idiom of small Georgia town prior to desegregation; some didactic passages disrupt narrative flow (which never happened in LUDELL) and preach to readers in annoying, obvious "messages"; will be enjoyed most by those who have read LUDELL

Wills, Lois Bailey. WAIT FOR ME. Christopher, 1976. 319 p. \$6.95. Grades 6-12

Story of a 19th-century schoolgirl growing up in typical New England town; superbly researched historical treatment of customs and characters of time and place that teaches while it entertains; history artfully interwoven with story portrays day-to-day lives of farmers, fishermen, storekeepers

Wiseman, B. BILLY LEARNS KARATE. Holt, 1976. unp. \$5.95. Grades 2-4

His tenacity motivated by playground bullies, Billy learns self-defense in karate class; much self-defense information and karate terminology; girls included in the class; black-and-white illustrations of young children show fast action; more of a karate primer than a story; color order of belts given for progress is not universal

Wolitzer, Hilma. TOBY LIVED HERE. Farrar, 1978. 141 p. \$6.95. Grades 6-10

After her mother's nervous breakdown Toby and her little sister enter a foster home, where Toby writes letter after letter to her mother without response; while accepting foster parents, adapting to new way of life, and experiencing physical maturation, Toby also worries about her mother's problem and makes up stories to cover her real sickness; excellent for girls growing up and those whose parents suffer similar problems

Wolkoff, Judie. WALLY. Bradbury, 1977. 199 p. \$6.95. Grades 4-6

Although unusual pets had been forbidden since the time Mom came face to face with a horned toad in her curler bag, Michael and Roger set out to hide pet chuckwalla, Wally, from their parents for a month while Wally's owner is away; entertaining antics

Wood, James Playsted. KENTUCKY TIME. Addison, 1977. 136 p. \$5.21. Grades 5-8

Ten-year-old Vergil tells of his wealthy Kentucky family, his parents' preoccupation with their own lives, his warm relationship with his physician uncle and with Liz, the 91-year-old servant; his father's heart attack and mother's decision to run for Congress create a new awareness and appreciation in the family; Vergil's mother's abrupt reform is hard to believe in otherwise worthwhile family-life fiction

Wrightson, Patricia. THE ICE IS COMING. Atheneum, 1977. 223 p. \$5.95.
Grades 6-12

Imaginative tale well told about ancient ice creatures trying to reclaim Australia; exciting from frost's first appearance in the summer on a farm near Toowoomba to hero's final battle against the freezing of the sea; mixes fiction with mythology of the Aborigines; by author of ALA Notable Book, THE NARGUN AND THE STARS

Yep, Laurence. CHILD OF THE OWL. Harper, 1977. 217 p. \$5.79. Also available from Dell for \$1.50 paper. Grades 4-9

Described on September 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Yolen, Jane. THE HUNDREDTH DOVE AND OTHER TALES. Crowell, 1977. 64 p. \$7.50.
Grades 3-6

Seven imaginative, symbolic stories written like myths or fairy tales; simple characters, such as a fisher boy, an ash burner, two young people in love, encounter supernatural beings--a sorcerer, a firemaiden, a white dove who is really a beautiful lady--searching for happiness and love; fairy tale lovers will enjoy stories' form and fine charcoal drawings; stories are sad and include psychological symbolism; for a special audience (Fayetteville City)

York, Carol Beach. BEWARE OF THIS SHOP. Nelson, 1977. 127 p. \$6.95.
Grades 7-12

Well-sustained suspense surrounds the little shop on Marley Street where Hester buys a china shepherdess and then destroys it when the figurine begins to haunt her; eerie Victorian setting and much atmosphere in deliciously chilling reading

Zindel, Paul. PARDON ME, YOU'RE STEPPING ON MY EYEBALL! Harper, 1976. 262 p. \$6.49. Also available from Bantam for \$1.75 paper. Grades 10-12

Described on September 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Books in a Series

Blish, James, adapt. THE STAR TREK READER. Dutton, 1976. 422 p. \$8.95.
Grades 7-12

Blish, James, adapt. THE STAR TREK READER II. Dutton, 1977. 457 p. \$8.95.
Grades 7-12

Forty selections from Bantam's STAR TREK series of episodes adapted from original television scripts; READER contains episodes from STAR TREKS 2, 3, and 8, and READER II covers episodes from 1, 4, and 9; skillful adaptations by James Blish, an accomplished science fiction writer in his own right; hardcover format preferable to original paperback for libraries and light heavy use

Bunting, Eve. SCIENCE FICTION. Childrens, 1978. each 27 p. each \$4.95.
Grades 3-6

Titles: DAY OF THE EARTHLINGS; THE ROBOT PEOPLE; THE SPACE PEOPLE;
THE UNDERSEA PEOPLE

Exciting science fiction series certain to command the attention of young people with stories integrating fantasies of futurism with problems and decisions faced by modern children--e.g., Casey learns compassion for her captive animals when she becomes a space tourist's souvenir, Merida overcomes her crippling cowardice and faces a shark to save the undersea children; fast-moving prose; easy-to-read print; attractive pen-and-ink drawings; Grades 3-6, remedial 7-9

BOOKS REVIEWED IN OTHER SOURCES

The books listed below have received favorable reviews in one or more of the following reviewing sources. Code letters for the reviewing sources are cited after the bibliographic entry for each title. The reviewing sources and their code letters are as follows:

AMERICAN LIBRARIES	AL
BOOK REVIEW DIGEST	BRD
BOOKLIST	BKL
BULLETIN OF THE CENTER FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS	BCCB
CHILDREN'S BOOK REVIEW SERVICE	CBRS
CHOICE	C
HORN BOOK	HB
KIRKUS REVIEWS	KR
LIBRARY JOURNAL	LJ
NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW	NYTBR
PUBLISHERS WEEKLY	PW
SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL	SLJ
SCIENCE BOOK AND FILMS	SBF
TOP OF THE NEWS	TN
WILSON LIBRARY BULLETIN	WLB

An asterisk after the code letters for the reviewing source indicates that the title was highly recommended in that particular reviewing source.

- Abels, Harriette Sheffer. THE HAUNTED COTTAGE. Childrens, 1978. 45 p. \$5.50. Grades 2-5. SLJ
- Alcott, Louisa May. TRUDEL'S SIEGE. McGraw, 1976. 55 p. \$5.72. Grades 4-6. BCCB CBRS KR PW SLJ
- Anderson, Margaret J. SEARCHING FOR SHONA. Knopf, 1978. 160 p. \$6.99. Grades 5-7. KR SLJ
- Anderson, Mary. STEP ON A CRACK. Atheneum, 1978. 180 p. \$7.95. Grades 7-12. BKL CBRS HB SLJ
- Angell, Judie. TINA GOGO. Bradbury, 1978. 196 p. \$7.95. Grades 6-8. BKL CBRS KR SLJ
- Appel, Benjamin, adapt. HEART OF ICE. Pantheon, 1977. 58 p. \$6.99. Grades 4-6. BCCB BKL KR SLJ
- Arden, William. ALFRED HITCHCOCK AND THE THREE INVESTIGATORS IN THE MYSTERY OF THE HEADLESS HORSE. Random, 1977. 151 p. \$3.99. Grades 4-6. SLJ
- Avi. CAPTAIN GREY. Pantheon, 1977. 141 p. \$6.99. Grades 5-8. SLJ
- Banks, Lynn Reid. THE FARTHEST-AWAY MOUNTAIN. Doubleday, 1976. 140 p. \$5.95. Grades 3-7. BCCB BKL KR SLJ
- Bato, Joseph. THE SORCERER. McKay, 1976. 171 p. \$6.95. Grades 7-10. BKL HB KR SLJ
- Bauer, Marion Dane. SHELTER FROM THE WIND. Dell, 1976. 108 p. \$1.25 paper. Grades 4-7. CBRS HB KR PW SLJ*
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